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MARCH 2024

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FROM THE EXPERTS

■ MUSINGS FROM THE AMMO BUNKER:

ARE 5.45X39MM AND
7.62X39MM GOING THE
WAY OF THE DODO BIRD?

■ THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS:

SWAMPFOX OPTICS
WARHORSE 1-6X24MM LPVO

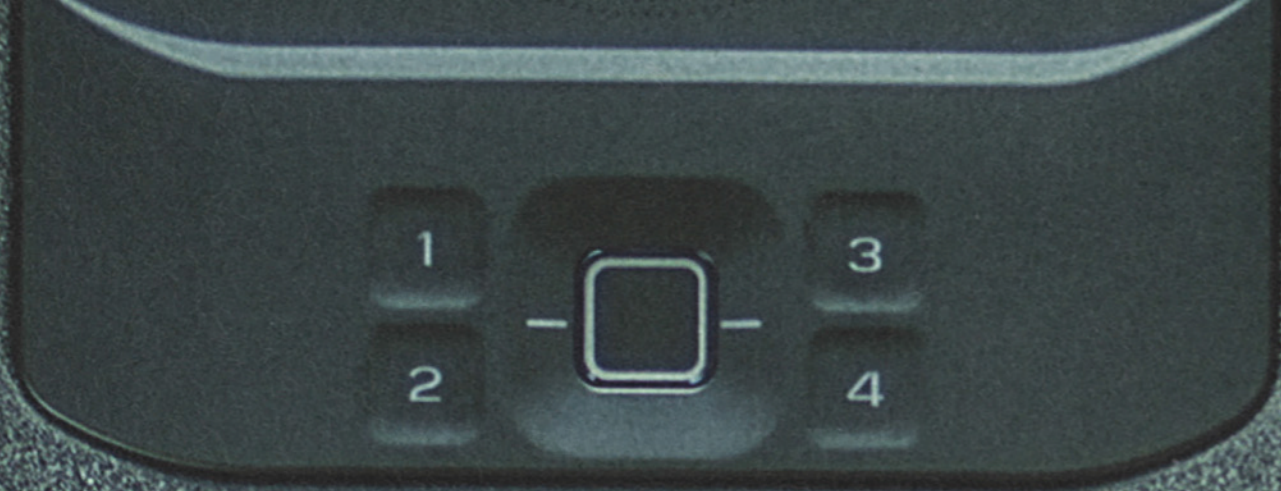
■ IN HUSHED TONES:

FOUR THINGS I LEARNED AS
A NEW SUPPRESSOR OWNER

■ THE WAR GUNS:

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40 SIG SAUER CROSS MAGNUM

SIG Stretches Their Popular Cross Rifle into the World of Magnums! David M. Fortier, Executive Editor



50



60



72



82



90

8 NEWSSTAND

Recent News for the Firearms Community
Mark Chesnut

12 POLITICS

UNLV Shootings Highlight Futility of Life-Endangering College 'Gun Control'
David Codrea

16 THE KNOX REPORT

A Look Back at Wayne LaPierre
Jeff Knox

20 CARRYING CONCEALED

Red Dot Mounting From the Experts
James Tarr

24 MUSINGS FROM THE AMMO BUNKER

Is 5.45x39mm and 7.62x39mm Going the Way of the Dodo Bird?
David M. Fortier, Executive Editor

28 THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

Swampfox Optics Warhorse 1-6x24mm LPVO
David M. Fortier, Executive Editor

32 IN HUSHED TONES

Four Things I Learned as a New Suppressor Owner
James Tarr

Cover photography
by Mike Anschuetz



36 THE WAR GUNS

Die Österreichisches-Ungarische Repetierpistole M.7 "Roth" Pistol
Paul Scarlata

50 TISAS PX-9 DUTY NIGHT STALKER

Affordable Performance, With Style
James Tarr

60 THE FN FAL

Is This the World's Best 7.62x51mm Battle Rifle?
Leroy Thompson

72 TAURUS GX4 CARRY

Maximal Minimalist 9mm EDC Pistol
Patrick Sweeney

82 FRANCHI'S MOMENTUM ALL-TERRAIN ELITE

A Scout by Any Other Name
James Tarr

90 BERETTA 93R

Italy's Cold War, Controlled-Burst Machine Pistol
Pierangelo Tendas



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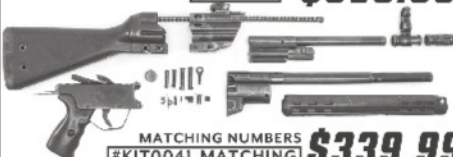
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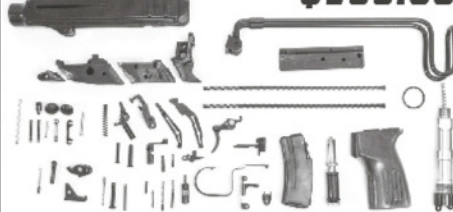


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RECENT NEWS FOR THE FIREARMS COMMUNITY BY MARK CHESNUT

Freelance writer and editor Mark Chesnut is the owner/editorial director at Red Setter Communications LLC. An avid hunter, shooter and political observer, he has been covering Second Amendment issues and politics on a near-daily basis for the past 25 years.

WHO'S OUT OF TOUCH? HINT: IT'S NOT GUN OWNERS

By Mark Chesnut

Lawful gun owners have long said that Americans need to own firearms to defend themselves and their families from violent criminals. Of course, that assertion has always drawn the standard rebuke from gun-ban advocates that such a thought is “out of touch with reality.”

Interestingly, data derived from a recent poll shows it isn't gun owners who are out of touch on the matter.

Findings from a recently released Harris/Harvard CAP poll reveal that a large majority — 63%, in fact — of respondents believe Americans need to own a gun to protect against criminal attack. And it wasn't just the 77% of Republicans who answered in the positive. The results showed 54% of Democrats and 56% of independents agreed with that assessment.

While the fact that 63% of Americans think people should own guns for self-defense probably jolted gun-ban advocates, the poll also revealed more bad news. Sixty percent of respondents think crime is getting worse instead of better, including 71% of Republicans, 65% of independents and 47% of Democrats.

Further pointing out Americans' concern over violent crime, the poll further showed that 67% of respondents supported removing district attorneys that are pulling back on prosecuting violent offenders. Even 64% of Democrats approved of removing soft-on-crime DAs.

Aside from firearms and violent crime, the survey also revealed some other interesting trends. Only 35% of respondents believe the country is “on



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the right track,” less than half approve of the job President Joe Biden is doing and only one-third approve of the way Congress is doing its job.

The survey, conducted online by The Harris Poll and HarrisX, questioned 2,851 registered voters. Results were weighted for age within gender, region, race/ethnicity, marital status, household size, income, employment, education, political party, and political ideology where necessary to align them with their actual proportions in the population. Propensity score weighting was also used to adjust for respondents' propensity to be online. **FN**

LAPIERRE RESIGNS AS NRA HEAD Firearms News Staff Report

Wayne LaPierre, longtime head of the National Rifle Association, has resigned effective Jan. 31, according to Fox News reports.

LaPierre, who has been executive vice president of the powerful pro-gun organization since 1991, cited health reasons for his resignation.

“With pride in all that we have accomplished, I am announcing my resignation from the NRA,” LaPierre was quoted as saying in an NRA announcement. “I’ve been a card-carrying member of this organization for most of my adult life, and I will

never stop supporting the NRA and its fight to defend Second Amendment freedom. My passion for our cause burns as deeply as ever.”

The association's announcement further stated that during an NRA Board of Directors meeting on Jan. 5 in Irving, Texas, NRA President Charles Cotton reported that he had accepted LaPierre's resignation.

LaPierre's resignation comes on the eve of a corruption trial in New York promulgated by gun-hating Attorney General Letitia James. James has in the past called the group a “terrorist

organization,” and has brought many actions against the association to try to run it out of business.

According to the NRA release, Andrew Arulanandam, head of general operations for the association, will serve as interim CEO and executive vice president of the organization.

“Andrew knows every facet of this organization and has stood shoulder-to-shoulder with me in every arena imaginable,” LaPierre said. “Andrew knows how to help the NRA win — he's been one of the key authors of our playbook for decades.” **FN**

JUDGE STAYS EARLIER DECISION ON YOUNG ADULT HANDGUN SALES BAN

By Mark Chesnut

We recently reported how a court in West Virginia ruled that the federal government's ban on the sale of handguns to Americans aged 18 to 20 years old is unconstitutional. Now, that same judge has stayed the ruling pending an appeal to the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals.

In the case *Brown v. ATF*, Judge Thomas S. Klesh of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of West Virginia declared the law unconstitutional and granted the plaintiffs' motion for summary judgment. At the time, it seemed his reasoning was quite sound.

"The core issue the Court must answer under *Bruen* remains whether our Nation's history and tradition contains 'analogous' restrictions on the ability of 18- to 20-year-olds to purchase firearms," Judge Klesh

wrote in that ruling. "Defendants have not presented any evidence of age-based restrictions on the purchase or sale of firearms from before or at the Founding or during the Early Republic. Defendants have likewise failed to offer evidence of similar regulation between then and 1791 or in a relevant timeframe thereafter. For that reason alone, Defendants have failed to meet the burden imposed by *Bruen*."

Unfortunately, only a week later Judge Klesh stayed the ruling, despite stating that he believes the plaintiffs will eventually succeed on the merits of the case.

"While the Court stands behind its reasoning and determination in its Memorandum Opinion and Order, the Court finds that the first factor weighs in favor of staying the injunction," Judge Klesh wrote. "Several

federal district courts have evaluated the constitutionality of 922(b)(1)'s age ban with differing results. This lawsuit poses the substantial and novel question 'of the proper definition of 'the people' in the Second Amendment and whether 18-to-21-year-olds fall within it. In well-reasoned and thoughtful opinions, district courts have landed on both sides of that debate.' Because Courts are split in their assessment of this question, reasonable minds can and have varied. Accordingly, the first factor weighs in favor of staying the injunction pending appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit."

The latest setback is a substantial one for young adults seeking to have their Second Amendment rights recognized. It's likely that will never happen until the matter finds its way to the U.S. Supreme Court. **FN**

JUDGE CALLS CALIFORNIA'S NEW CARRY BAN "REPUGNANT," RULES IT UNCONSTITUTIONAL

By Mark Chesnut

As rulings on Second Amendment lawsuits go, this week's decision in a case challenging California's punitive firearm carry laws is about as pointed as one can be.

On Dec. 20, U.S. District Judge Cormac Carney granted a preliminary injunction blocking the state's new carry law, which was set to go into effect on Jan. 1. The law would have banned Californians — even those with a carry permit — from carrying concealed firearms in more than two dozen places like playgrounds, churches, zoos and banks.

In making the ruling, Judge Carney didn't mince words, deeming the law to be "sweeping, repugnant to the Second Amendment, and openly defiant of the Supreme Court."

"Although the government may have some valid safety concerns, legislation regulating [concealed carry] permit holders — the most responsible of law-abiding citizens seeking to exercise their Second Amendment rights — seems an odd and misguided place to focus to address those safety concerns," Carney wrote in the opinion.



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The carry restrictions are just a part of the new anti-gun laws passed in September. Judge Carney's decision declaring the restrictions unconstitutional was welcome news to the California Rifle & Pistol Association.

[Cont. to page 102]

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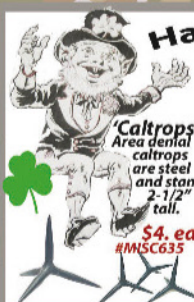
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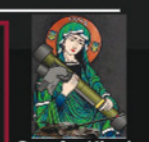
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David Codrea is the winner of multiple journalist awards for investigating/defending the RKBA and a long-time gun owner rights advocate who defiantly challenges the folly of citizen disarmament. In addition to being a regular featured contributor for Firearms News, he blogs at "The War on Guns: Notes from the Resistance," and posts on Twitter: @dcodrea and Facebook.

UNLV SHOOTINGS HIGHLIGHT FUTILITY OF LIFE-ENDANGERING COLLEGE 'GUN CONTROL'

“We need Congress to step up’ after UNLV [University of Nevada Las Vegas] shooting,” *NewsNation* reported, citing Joe Biden’s official statement crafted by White House wordsmiths to exploit the murders to full advantage. “He urged lawmakers to ban assault weapons and high-capacity magazines.” He also “urged lawmakers to ... implement fast national red flag laws, require safe gun storage and enact universal background checks.”

The problem with those “solutions,” AP reported, are that the killer, bought his gun legally, meaning he’d undergone a background check, and he used “a 9mm handgun.” Clark County Sheriff Kevin McMahon added that “the shooter brought 11 magazines with him to the campus, and police found nine of them on the shooter after he was killed.”

There goes the objection that magazine bans are justified because having to swap them out gives victims time to tackle their assailant. What happened instead was “Terrified students and professors cowered in classrooms and offices as the gunman roamed the top three floors of UNLV’s five-story Lee Business School...”

Why are supposedly free Americans in then land of the Second Amendment reduced to that pathetic state of affairs? They certainly outnumber the “lone wolf” attackers who carry out most school shootings. So how can one delusional nutjob completely dominate and cow a campus full of predominantly young adults?

In this case, it’s thanks to those citizen disarmament edicts the president, the Democrats, and the media are

saying we need more of. And Nevada law and university policy agree.

“Nevada prohibits any person from carrying or possessing a firearm on the property of the Nevada System of Higher Education (state university and college system),” Giffords Law Center notes on a state gun laws page. “This prohibition does not restrict the possession of a firearm on the property of a private or public school or child care facility by a: 1) peace officer; 2) school security guard; or 3) person having written permission from the president of a branch or facility of the Nevada System of Higher Education, the principal of the private or public school, or the person designated by a child care facility to give permission to carry or possess the firearm.”

UNLV makes its position clear on its University Police Services “Frequently Asked Questions” page, that bluntly posts: “Can I have a firearm on campus? Per NRS 202.265, the following are prohibited on university property: Projectile weapons. Bladed weapons greater than three inches in length.”

The UNLV Student Code of Conduct elaborates, dictating “Without prior written authorization from the President or his/her designee, possessing, storing, controlling, or using a functioning or nonfunctioning firearm...” is “prohibited.”

So, what else could the “terrified students and professors” do besides “cower”?

Campus police, the “Only Ones” who can legally be armed, sum up options for mere “civilians” in three words, adapted from Department of Homeland Security “advice” for citizens victimized twice, once by assailants, and again by government: “Run, hide, fight.” They’ve even made

a YouTube video, “Surviving an Active Shooter,” reminding viewers “The phrase Run Hide Fight® is a registered trademark of the City of Houston.”

First, a word about the “Only Ones” is in order. The term arose from a video featuring a DEA agent lecturing on “gun safety.”

“I’m the only one in this room professional enough that I know of to carry this Glock .40,” he told a roomful of school kids before shooting himself in the foot in front of the horrified class while trying to holster his weapon.

The phrase was too perfect not to use, especially compounded with example after example of police officers receiving special exemptions from gun laws binding on “ordinary citizens” under the assumption that cops are somehow more trustworthy than the rest of us. But because of their employment, we see officers getting nationwide concealed carry, exemptions for possession and use of firearms forbidden to the masses and being able to “lawfully” go armed into so-called “gun free zones” where the rest of us are forbidden.

While campus police were quick to respond, and reportedly got to the scene, engaged the shooter, and killed him within minutes that recalls nothing so much as the truism “When seconds count the police are minutes away.” Not only did their rapid response do the victims killed no good, had the murderer been intent on mass instead of targeted killing, those nine magazines they found on him would have been fewer and the body count would have been more.

As for campus Only Ones’ advice for the real “first responders,” the unarmed victim pool, not everyone is physically capable of running, and no one can outrun a bullet. Ditto for hiding, and



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WEIGHT

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-300WM

CALIBER

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DIAMETER

ETM™
(Elite Taper Mount)

MOUNT TYPE

6.6"
(w/No Mount)

LENGTH

assuming a seeker with murder on his mind won't find you. And their "Fight" directive, as illustrated in the video, comes across as delusional.

"Look around right now and find areas where you may hide or items you may use as weapons," they advise, and then showed some poor, desperate slobbs holding chairs, getting ready to snag an attacker with a jacket, and noticing a fire extinguisher in a wall-mounted glass case. All that happens under the assurance that "help is on the way," and that students can further prepare themselves for a one-sided death match by downloading UNLV's "Rebel Safe" app (assuming another petition isn't launched by "woke" students and faculty to distance the school from a mascot "inextricably connected to a failed regime whose single aim was to preserve the institution of slavery").

Perhaps they could rename themselves The Fightin' Extinguishers...? But that still doesn't solve the problem of the main option being cowering.

How different things are from another incident within the lifetimes of many *Firearms News* readers, in 1966, when sniper Charles Whitman atop the University of Texas tower was pinned down by students with rifles.

"Students waited and waited for the police to arrive," *Texas Monthly* recalled. "At that time, the Austin Police Department had no tactical unit to deploy. Its officers had only service revolvers and shotguns, which were useless against a sniper whose perch was hundreds of yards away ... Some officers went home to get their rifles; others directed traffic away from campus. In the absence of any visible police presence, students decided to defend themselves."

Graduate student James Damon retrieved his \$15 M1 carbine and helped keep the murderer pinned down. Senior Cliff Drummond recalled "Students with deer rifles ... firing like crazy back at the Tower."

There are plenty more recollections, but perhaps the most powerful comes

from Bill Helmer, who admitted "I remember thinking, 'All we need is a bunch of idiots running around with rifles.' But what they did turned out to be brilliant. Once [Whitman] could no longer lean over the edge and fire, he was much more limited in what he could do. He had to shoot through those drain spouts, or he had to pop up real fast and then dive down again. That's why he did most of his damage in the first twenty minutes."

Compare that to killings like were enabled by policy at Virginia Tech, where students with concealed carry permits were forbidden to be armed on campus. This is part of what I discussed when *The New York Times* asked me to participate in a panel on the anniversary of the shooting (and just to keep the fight fair, ganged half-a-dozen antis up against me).

Nine months before the shootings, graduate student Bradford B. Wiles wrote a letter to The Roanoke Times in response to a campus manhunt for a murder suspect.

"I am licensed to carry a concealed handgun in the commonwealth of Virginia," Wiles wrote. "However, because I am a Virginia Tech student, I am prohibited from carrying at school because of Virginia Tech's student policy..."

The published response from University Vice President Larry Hincker was one of ridicule.

"[I]t is absolutely mind-boggling to see the opinions of Bradford Wiles," he wrote, using terms like "out of touch ... inane [and] absurd" to underscore his points.

"Guns don't belong in classrooms," he concluded. "They never will. Virginia Tech has a very sound policy preventing same."

We saw the carnage that resulted from that "very sound policy."

And we've seen results in places like Columbine, Parkland, and Uvalde, where police held back and made sure they were safe.

Meanwhile, the blood dancers are out in force, tweeting (xing?) about

UNLV and exploiting the killings to demand even more citizen disarmament and even more "gun-free zones." The thing is, if you look at the responses they're getting, the majority aren't buying it, and in many cases are not just defying them, but doing so by throwing 60s leftist organizer Saul Alinsky's *Rules for Radicals* "Rule 5" back in their faces. ("Ridicule is man's most potent weapon. It's hard to counterattack ridicule, and it infuriates the opposition, which then reacts to your advantage.")

Don't look for UNLV to be a gamechanger in terms of being the catalyst for more gun bans, as much as Chuck Schumer, Elizabeth Warren, and Hank Johnson of "Tip Guam over" notoriety are milking it for all it's worth. The killer, a career academic, wasn't trying to slaughter random student victims, he was targeting faculty in an act of apparent revenge for not getting hired. He didn't use an "assault rifle" with "high-capacity magazines, he used a handgun. He went through a background check and got his gun legally. He wasn't a MAGA "extremist," and in fact, considered George Soros one of the "Great Minds of the Twentieth Century."

That is, he didn't fit the profile to advance the preferred narrative to spook "moderate" Republicans into caving on a semiauto ban. Gun owners "dodged a bullet." This time.

But let a Beslan-style massacre happen, where more than 330 people, 186 of them children, were killed, and expect a Democrat/media feeding frenzy, and Republican career politicians to make holding on to their place at the trough their number one priority.

If such a large-scale massacre is carried out, what do you think the chances are it would be by enemies welcomed into the country after allowed to illegally jump the border?

Now what do you think the chances are it will happen on a campus that prohibits ordinary citizens from being armed? **FN**

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A LOOK BACK AT WAYNE LAPIERRE

(Tombstone, Arizona, January 8, 2024)

On January 5, 2024, NRA CEO Wayne LaPierre announced his intention to retire from the Association due to “health issues.” The move came just two days before the long-awaited trial was to begin in the lawsuit filed by New York Attorney General Letitia James against the NRA and four of its top executives, including LaPierre. LaPierre’s surprise announcement received significant attention from the legacy media, with most reports chortling gleefully as they twisted the knife.

Defenders of LaPierre, mostly members of the lapdog NRA Board of Directors and upper-level paid staff, say he’s been unfairly targeted by anti-gun extremists in an effort to damage the NRA and its mission of defending the Second Amendment. LaPierre’s fans claim that he has been so effective in defending the rights of NRA members, that he became the primary target of anti-gun politicians like Letitia James, former New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, and former New York City Mayor Mike Bloomberg. The official line goes on to say that LaPierre was under constant death threats from gun control extremists, requiring him to have a 24/7 personal security detail,

to fly exclusively on private jets, and to have “safe houses” where he could get away from the threats and danger. Wayne’s backers claim that LaPierre was “the hardest working man in Washington,” and that his leadership was the key to the NRA’s tremendous

While political motivations certainly fueled the investigation into the NRA and its “leaders,” the sad fact is that virtually all of the accusations of mis- and malfeasance against them have been proven to be true and admitted to by the accused. During

LaPierre’s three-decade rein over the NRA, power was systematically concentrated in his office. And as his power grew, compensation, perks and benefits for those at the top of the pyramid grew exponentially. At the same time, fees for “consulting” also began appearing, often with no hint of what exactly the NRA was receiving in return, and those payments for “consulting” were almost always to current or former NRA employees, Directors, their family members, or others with close ties to someone high up in the NRA hierarchy.

Most of this information will come out and be examined in the trial in New York,

so I won’t dwell on it here. Instead, I want to look back at Wayne LaPierre’s record as a lobbyist and leader of the NRA.

Most readers probably know that after the mass murder attack on a country music concert in Las Vegas, Wayne LaPierre put out an official statement declaring:

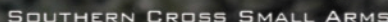


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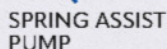
WAYNE LAPIERRE ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTION TO RETIRE FROM THE ASSOCIATION DUE TO “HEALTH ISSUES.” THE MOVE CAME JUST TWO DAYS BEFORE THE LONG-AWAITED TRIAL WAS TO BEGIN IN THE LAWSUIT FILED BY NEW YORK ATTORNEY GENERAL LETITIA JAMES AGAINST THE NRA AND FOUR OF ITS TOP EXECUTIVES, INCLUDING LAPIERRE.

success over the past 30 years, and that he had detected the problems within NRA and made “course corrections” to address them. They also claim that criticism from gun rights supporters including my late father and me, is all motivated by jealousy, old grudges, and personal avarice. None of the excuses are true, nor are the counter claims.

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“The NRA believes that devices designed to allow semi-automatic rifles to function like fully-automatic rifles should be subject to additional regulations.”

Our readers also probably know that this statement, and LaPierre’s refusal to walk it back, led directly to a subsequent BATFE determination that bump-stocks are machineguns and are illegal for public possession under the 1986 Hughes Amendment. Of course, the Hughes Amendment, outlawing the sale and possession of new full-autos, manufactured after May 19th, 1986, is another of LaPierre’s blunders. The decision to go forward with the Firearm Owners Protection Act after that amendment was attached, was not all on LaPierre, but the decision not to actively pursue repeal of the amendment — legislatively and through the courts — as LaPierre had promised, falls squarely on him.

In recent years, LaPierre has also declared NRA support for “red flag” laws, as long as some semblance of due process is provided for the victim/buyer. He’s also declared NRA support for NICS background checks on all firearm transfers at gun shows. It should also be remembered that under LaPierre’s direction, the NRA actively lobbied for implementation of NICS and similar schemes in the states, then supported passage of the Brady Gun Control Bill, with an amendment added providing for the system to shift to the NICS “instant” background check system in the future.

In 1999, at the NRA Annual Meeting of Members in Denver, LaPierre gave a speech in which he “set the record straight” regarding what the NRA believes, declaring:

“First, we believe in absolutely gun-free, zero-tolerance, totally safe schools. That means no guns in America’s schools, period ... with the rare exception of law enforcement officers or trained security personnel.”

In the same speech, he went on to say:

“The National Rifle Association believes in no unsupervised youth access to guns, period.”

and,

“We believe that even if violent juvenile felons get a second chance at going straight, they should never get a second chance at owning a gun. Some call it Juvenile Brady — we call it common sense. We support barring all juveniles convicted of violent felonies from owning guns, for life.”

Granted, this speech was made at a unique moment in history, right after the Columbine atrocity, and just down the road from the place where it happened, but these are not positions that are consistent with the core principles of the Second Amendment, nor are they positions supported by the majority of NRA members. LaPierre was foolishly throwing principles out the window in an effort to appease people who were using a heart-wrenching tragedy to push their political agenda.

What all of this demonstrates is the fact that Wayne LaPierre is a political animal, and not a principled activist. It shows his willingness to shift positions and make deals based on expediency and polling numbers, and it calls into question his fundamental understanding of the basic values and beliefs of our movement.

In his resignation announcement, LaPierre said he had been a “card carrying NRA member” for most of his adult life. I have no doubt that’s true since he’s been an employee of the NRA for most of his adult life. I understand he was encouraged to purchase an NRA membership when he was hired back in around 1977. The horrific video of LaPierre’s botched elephant “hunt” demonstrates his lack of competence with a rifle. A politician doesn’t need to be an avid hunter or gun owner to support our cause, and there are plenty of folks who are avid hunters and gun owners who are on the wrong side of our issues. Wayne LaPierre has never been a serious hunter or competitive shooter.

He is not a knowledgeable collector, an expert in firearms technology, reloading, self-defense, or use of force. He has proven time and again that he is willing to surrender a principled defense of the right to arms in favor of political advantage, or to attempt to temporarily blunt media attacks.

LaPierre apologists are quick to point out his ability to talk wealthy NRA supporters into writing big checks to the Association, and that’s an important skill. That is, however, a skill that is built into the office to a large degree. Just as the Executive Director of NRA-ILA will instantly be recognized as one of the most influential lobbyists in Washington, so too is the Executive Vice President of the NRA automatically going to be our most influential fundraiser. The \$65,000 worth of gifts given to high-dollar donors by LaPierre — from NRA coffers — didn’t hurt either.

The reign of Wayne LaPierre at NRA is over. It should have ended 20 years ago when the problems first became apparent, or 10 years ago when the corruption became a serious threat. Or five years ago when it all spilled out into the public consciousness. Had it been dealt with at any of those points, the NRA would be a strong, healthy, effective organization today, fully funded and ready to face the challenges of the 2024 elections. Instead, it was swept under the rug, denied, defended, and excused, and now it has put the entire organization on the brink of destruction.

LaPierre’s exit is a significant step, but it must be only the first step in restoring the NRA. All of LaPierre’s co-conspirators, enablers and apologists among the NRA Board, staff, and vendors, must also be held accountable for their corruption and tolerance of corruption, and their failure to ensure the financial and philosophical integrity of our organization. **TN**

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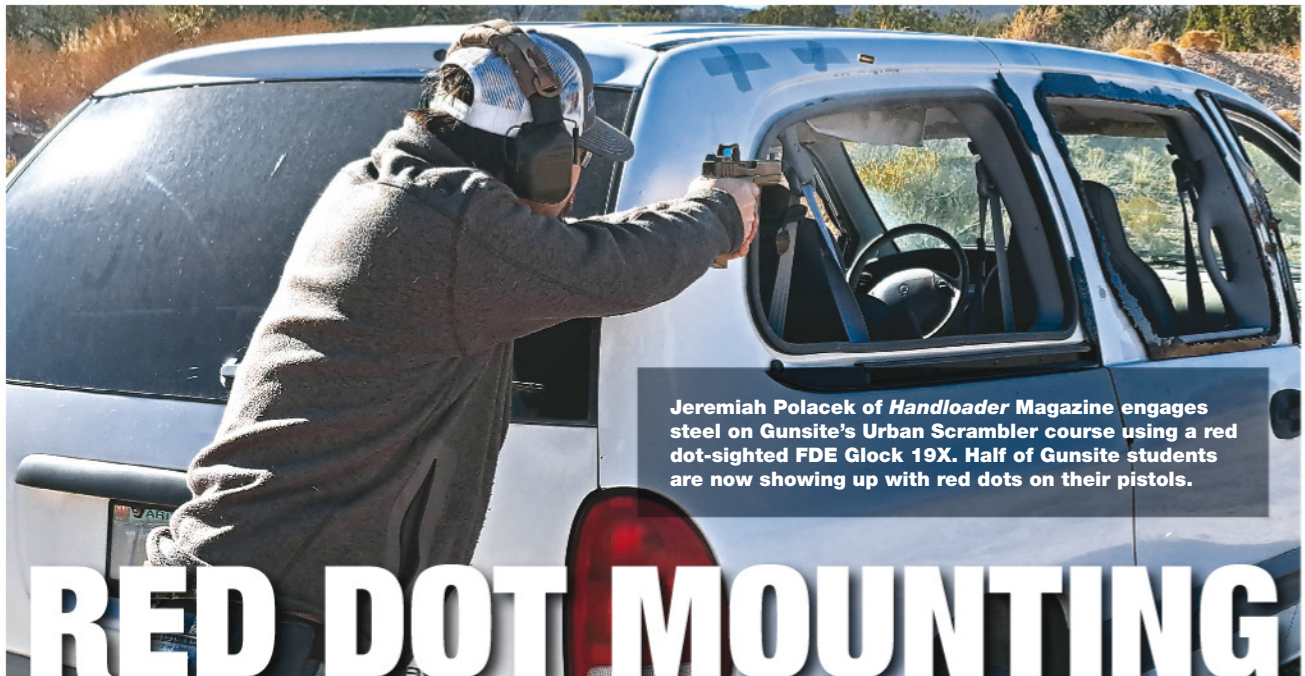


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Jeremiah Polacek of *Handloader Magazine* engages steel on Gunsite's Urban Scrambler course using a red dot-sighted FDE Glock 19X. Half of Gunsite students are now showing up with red dots on their pistols.

RED DOT MOUNTING FROM THE EXPERTS

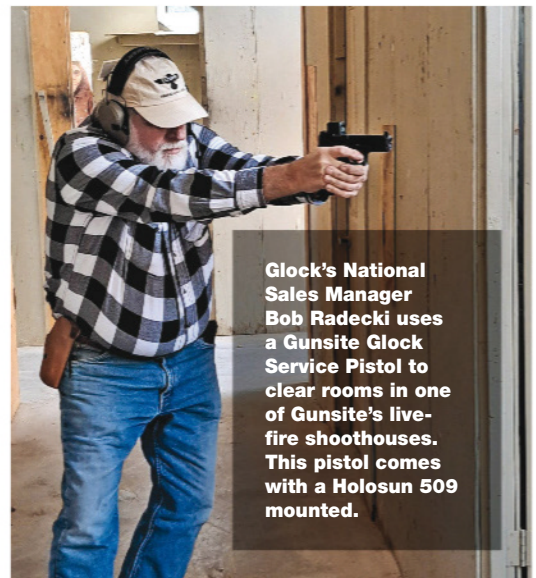
This past month I had an opportunity to attend a writer event at Gunsite dealing solely with the use of red dots on carry guns. Gunsite is the oldest and largest privately-run firearms facility in the world (3,200 acres, coming up on 50 years in business), and has been enjoying record enrollment.

Their entry-level pistol course, the five-day Gunsite 250 class, is the standard against which all other basic defensive pistol courses are judged. Talking to the cadre at Gunsite this past visit, they told me that fully 40–50% of the students in their 250 course were using pistols with mounted red dots. They have amassed a huge amount of knowledge, not just on how to employ red dot optics on carry guns but on the mounting of them—and that last issue is what I want to cover in this column.

In the past year, the Gunsite gunsmithy has only had to deal with perhaps half a dozen optics which

have failed...but nearly half of all 250 students running red dots experience problems. Not with the optics themselves, but their mounting systems, the plates and screws. Which was completely unexpected information to me—that modern optics have gotten so good that they're rarely breaking, and it's incorrect mounting which is causing the lion's share of problems.

Dave Fink runs the gunsmithy at Gunsite, and he gave a little red dot clinic to the attendees, explaining the most common problems he'd seen, and how to fix them. Mounting optics directly to a pistol's slide is the best option. Some pistols are set up for this, and for those that aren't, Fink and his people do a lot of slide cutting to direct mount various optics.



Glock's National Sales Manager Bob Radecki uses a Gunsite Glock Service Pistol to clear rooms in one of Gunsite's live-fire shoothouses. This pistol comes with a Holosun 509 mounted.

The other mounting alternative is some sort of plate, and the most common one seen at Gunsite is the Glock MOS plate system. Not only are Glocks the most common pistol type now seen at Gunsite classes,

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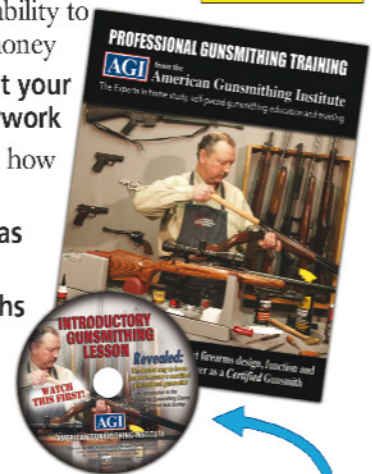
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Dave Fink of the Gunsite gunsmithy recommends cleaning all screw holes of Loctite and oil, and recommends heat—as seen here—to do that.

the new Gunsite Service Pistol is a Glock—a Glock 45 with a Holosun 509 direct mounted to the side, with tall backup sights. In fact, I ran a Gunsite Glock during the three-day class. With the Glock MOS mounting system, the adapter plate is secured to the slide with two screws, and the optic is secured to the plate with two additional screws.

Whether you're direct mounting or using a plate, all of your screws and screw holes should be clean of oil and old Loctite. Fink recommends either using heat to draw it out (he demonstrated with a little propane torch) or brake cleaner to remove the oil. Acetone removes old Loctite from screw threads. Q-Tips are invaluable for all of this. When you use Loctite, you want fresh Loctite bonding to clean dry metal.

Sometimes the screws provided are a little too long, and go through

the MOS plate and press against the top of the slide. This can warp your plate. One quick way to check this is to mount the optic to the plate when it is off the gun, and see if the screws stick out the bottom of the plate. If they do, a quick bit of file work will fix that problem.

Not tight enough and your screws can loosen and fly away. Too tight and you can shear off screws or even buckle optic housings. Fink recommends using a torque wrench for your optic screws, tightening the MOS plate screws to 18–24 in-lbs., and the screws holding the optic to the plate (or the slide in direct-mount situations) to 18 in-lbs. He recommends red Loctite for the MOS plate screws, and blue Loctite for the optic screws. Another useful trick is witness marks on your optic screws, drawing a line across the screw and onto the housing. Glancing at those marks

from time to time will tell you if your screws are loosening.

The Glock factory MOS plates often leave a little gap at the front or rear of the optic, between it and the slide, increasing the recoil forces. Fink recommends, and uses, improved aftermarket plates from DPP Titanium and C&H Precision (chpws.com) which have spacers that act as additional recoil lugs. The C&H plates are FBI approved for their duty pistols.

As for which optics they see most often at Gunsite, the Trijicon RMR footprint is the most popular, and the three most popular brands are Holosun (many of which use the RMR footprint), Trijicon, and Aimpoint. They have yet to see a brand or model of optic that doesn't eventually break, but these seem to be the top performers.

Bob Radecki of Glock was present at the event, and he stated that 70% of the guns they sell to law enforcement are MOS models, or packages that include an optic, indicating red dots are very popular and growing ever more so.

One final tip—most lenses are secured to their housings with some sort of glue. When you're cleaning your lenses, use just a Q-Tip wet with water. Some solvents can damage your optic, either removing the coating on your lens or eating away at the glue holding the lens to the housing. **FN**



Aftermarket plates from DPP Titanium or C&H are preferred by the Gunsite gunsmithy because they have spacers which fit between the optics and the slide in front or back, helping to absorb recoil forces.



Gunsite gunsmith Dave Fink recommends using a torque wrench to install all optic screws.

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IS 5.45X39MM AND 7.62X39MM GOING THE WAY OF THE DODO BIRD?



While both the 5.45x39mm (L) and 7.62x39mm (R) are successful military cartridges, are they withering on the US commercial market?

The dodo (*Raphus cucullatus*) was an odd flightless bird which called the Indian Ocean island of Mauritius home. You may not be familiar with it because the dodo is long extinct, it disappeared around 1662. So, what does an odd bird that disappeared off the face of the globe centuries ago have in common with two Soviet era rifle cartridges? I have to wonder if one or both of these two cartridges is in danger of disappearing from the US commercial market. Both are great cartridges and will serve in various militaries for decades to come, but I have to wonder if their days are numbered here with US shooters. Let's examine both of them.

5.45x39mm M74

The Russian equivalent to our 5.56x45mm, the 5.45x39mm M74 cartridge was developed by Viktor Sabelnikov and Lidiya Bulavskaya. It was officially adopted by the Soviet Union in 1974 and subsequently replaced the then standard 7.62x39mm M43 cartridge in Soviet

service. The cartridge consists of a tapered 39.82mm steel case which, in conjunction with a beefy rim, ensures positive feeding and extraction in automatic weapons. The military 7N6 ball round features a very long (25.5mm) 52-grain FMJ-BT projectile, with a muzzle velocity of 2,886 fps. For reliable ignition in extreme cold a Berdan primer is utilized.

In my opinion, the 5.45x39mm is very good for its intended purpose, as a military rifle cartridge.

In my opinion, the 5.45x39mm is very good for its intended purpose, as a military rifle cartridge. Compared to the cartridge it replaced in Soviet service, the 7.62x39mm, it has about half the free recoil, a flatter trajectory, it weighs substantially less and is more accurate. All of these help to improve the soldier's survivability on the modern battlefield. The cartridge also uses fewer raw materials than the 7.62x39mm, so it is more economical to manufacture. It has performed well

on the modern battlefield and will remain in frontline use with the Russian Army for years to come.

That said the 5.45x39mm never really took hold here in the US. While many love their AK-74 clones, they were largely fed using cheap surplus 7N6 and Russian produced commercial ammunition. Domestic American ammunition companies, outside of

Hornady, never felt the urge to start producing reloadable cartridge cases, 0.220-inch projectiles and loading ammunition for it.

Unfortunately, the days of cheap surplus are over, and steel core 7N6 ball ammunition is banned from importation. The value of 7N6 here in the US has spiked, and once it is gone, it's gone forever. Russian commercial ammunition is also banned from import, so the days of cheap Russian Tula and Wolf ammunition are over



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The “Big 4” military rifle cartridges, L to R: 5.45x39mm, 5.8x42mm Chinese, 5.56x45mm NATO and 7.62x39mm.



The demise of cheap surplus ammunition and Russian commercial ammunition being banned from importation has hurt both calibers.

as well. Currently, perhaps the best option is Hornady’s 60-grain V-MAX load. At over a dollar a round, it’s not exactly inexpensive but it works well. Reloading 5.45x39mm is not as simple or economical as reloading 5.56x45mm either. Reloadable brass is hard to find. The correct diameter projectiles are as well. Sure it can be done, but reloading large quantities for your semi-automatic rifle is a bit different than loading a couple boxes of 7.7mm for your Arisaka.

7.62x39mm M43

This Soviet short sword was developed as a replacement for the old Imperial Russian 7.62x54mmR in rifles. Fielded in the SKS-45 carbine and AK-47, the 7.62x39mm took the German 7.92x33mm Kurz intermediate cartridge concept and made it hugely successful. In the decades following its introduction it was adopted around the world. Today, the 7.62x39mm is a very popular cartridge among US hunters and recreational shooters. It is available in both supersonic and

7.62x39mm is a different animal than 5.45x39mm. Many US ammunition companies manufacture it. Modern expanding loads are readily available for it. Plus, it’s an easy cartridge to hand-load. Boxer primed cases are readily available as well as a wide variety of projectiles, loading equipment and data. Even so, the demise of cheap plinking and practice ammunition hurts. The 7.62x39mm’s popularity was based around its economical nature.

Today, the 7.62x39mm is a very popular cartridge among US hunters and recreational shooters.

Due to all this, I have my doubts as to the 5.45x39mm cartridge’s future here in the US. Many AK rifle manufacturers are producing commercial 5.56x45mm rifles instead. If I were buying an AK rifle today, I would opt for a 5.56x45mm instead of a 5.45x39mm gun simply due to ammunition availability. I love the 5.45x39mm cartridge, and hope things change in the future. Perhaps Palmetto State Armory will change the landscape. Right now though, things look a bit bleak.

subsonic loadings and its interest is not limited solely to Kalashnikov style rifles. 7.62x39mm is a popular chambering in AR-15s, other semi-automatic designs as well as bolt-action rifles.

The demise of cheap surplus and economical Russian commercial 7.62x39mm ammunition has definitely hurt shooters. Looking in my notes, in 2018 a case of 1,000 rounds of Wolf Performance Ammunition 7.62x39mm cost just \$200. Unfortunately, those days seem to be gone for good.

I do not think the 7.62x39mm is going away any time soon. However, the high cost of ammunition is definitely going to affect how much shooters can enjoy their rifles in this caliber. 5.45x39mm? I think this cartridge is on the ropes here in the US. It’s a great round, but limited availability and high prices definitely detracts from its appeal. The casual low volume shooter may get by, but I suspect high volume shooters of both calibers will be looking at the 5.56x45mm. **FN**



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The Swampfox Optics Warhorse is a good looking 1-6x24mm LPVO with a number of nice features.

SWAMPFOX OPTICS

WARHORSE 1-6X24MM LPVO

Swampfox Optics has made their name by offering interesting and solid performing optics at a blue collar price. Their Warhorse 1-6x24mm Low Power Variable Optic (LPVO) though, has the features and looks of a high-end optic. A really nice looking rifle scope, it is built on a 34mm tube and features a low profile finger adjustable elevation turret, capped windage turret and a rheostat to change illumination intensity settings. The design incorporates a First Focal Plane (FFP) illuminated reticle, so you can use it for ballistic compensation at any magnification

setting. In the hands this is a really nice looking optical device which will appeal to marksmen looking for specific features.

During my time reviewing the Warhorse test conditions ranged from 50 degrees to -10 degrees F in winter. During this time, I've noted things I really like about this scope and I couple I don't. So, let's jump right into it. Handling the scope I like the visible build quality. It's an attractive optic the way the turrets are machined, how they are nicely marked, the design of the magnification zoom ring and quick focus diopter.

It's built on an over-size 34mm main tube. Some will like this, although it adds size/weight to the design and requires a corresponding larger 34mm mount. It does allow the use of larger internal lenses though. Optical performance is solid. LPVOs tend to live or die on the basis of their 1x performance and here the Warhorse does well. 1x isn't perfect, none of them are, but I had no issues running fast drills with both eyes open. Zoom the magnification up and the Warhorse has solid optical performance in the 3x to 6x range where most will use it much of the time. Color rendition is accurate, perhaps

A person wearing a black t-shirt, tan cargo pants, and a black helmet with a clear visor is holding a Tokarev TT12 rifle. The rifle is black with a curved magazine and a handguard. The background is a light, hazy grey.

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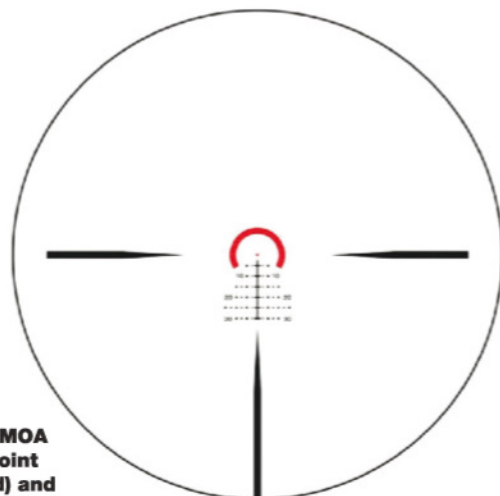
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The Warhorses mechanism block features a locking elevation turret with .25 MOA audible/tactile clicks, 25 MOA per full turret rotation, a capped windage turret and 12 reticle intensity settings.



► The Swampfox Optics' Dagoon MOA reticle features a central aiming point with a horseshoe (both illuminated) and a "Christmas tree" (non-illuminated) for elevation and windage/lead corrections.



DRAGOON MOA

just a touch warm. Resolution is very good and I used this optic for observing out to 1,500 yards during testing.

My review optic came with Swampfox Optics' Etched Glass Dagoon MOA reticle. This features an illuminated center aiming dot surrounded by an illuminated horseshoe. Below this is a ballistic "tree" with 30 MOA of elevation holds as well as marks for windage/lead corrections. The reticle is simple, easy to understand and quick to use. The Christmas tree portion is not illuminated, which in my book is a plus. Regarding illumination, you have a total of 12 illumination settings with an off position between each one. Settings 1 and 2 are intended for use with night vision. At settings 11 and 12 intensity is bright enough to see/use on 1x even on snow.

If you prefer to dial in your adjustments, the elevation turret features nice audible and tactile .25 MOA clicks. The elevation turret locks in place by pushing it down. Pull it up to make adjustments. It provides 25 MOA per full turret revolution, but it lacks a turret revolution indicator. The windage turret is a low profile design and capped to protect it.

In use, the fast focus ocular facilitated a clear image, the optic zeroed easily, and the magnification ring zoomed smoothly without excessive force being required. I found the image quality to be quite good, the reticle worked well, low light performance was good and I liked the turret design. On the downside, the optic is on the heavy side at 23.3 ounces and requires a 34mm mount. Some may not see the need for an uncapped elevation turret on a 1-6x scope with a ballistic reticle. It's personal preference. Some will not like a FFP reticle on a 1-6x scope, as the etched reticle is very small and hard to see on 1x. The Warhorse's illumination is bright enough to allow it to be used similar to a red dot. If your battery dies though, you lose that ability.

All in all, Swampfox Optics' Warhorse is a good looking 1-6x24mm LPVO with a host of nice features. Performance is solid and I experienced no issues with it. If you are looking for a LPVO with these specific

features, this is one optic to consider. MSRP is \$639 and Swampfox plans to extend the Warhorse line with a 1-8x and 1-10x in the future. **FN**

SPECIFICATIONS SWAMPFOX OPTICS WARHORSE

Magnification:	1-6x
Tube Diameter:	34mm
Objective Lens Diameter:	24mm
Exit Pupil:	7.7 – 3.7mm
Eye Relief:	3.4 – 3.5 inches
FOV @ 100 yards:	105 feet (1x) – 18 feet (6x)
Click Value:	.25 MOA
Total Elevation Adjustment:	150 MOA
Total Windage Adjustment:	100 MOA
Lens Coatings:	Fully Multi-Coated, Anti-Fog, Hydrophobic
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FOUR THINGS I LEARNED AS A NEW SUPPRESSOR OWNER

I'm unusual in that I spent a lot of time shooting suppressed guns long before I ever owned a suppressor. But, I discovered, there is a difference between simply shooting a gun equipped with one and actually owning a suppressor. This past year, I became the proud owner of three suppressors purchased through Silencer Central, and learned a number of surprising things in a very short period of time.

Four Things I Learned as a New Suppressor Owner:

1. Suppressors are amazing heat sinks. This I think was the biggest surprise to me, as previously whenever I would shoot a suppressed gun, I would then hand it back to the manufacturer. I knew they got hot, but dear God...

If you're running pistol calibers, or subsonic 300 Blackout, your can might take quite a while to heat up, and unless you're doing a lot of rapid fire might never get too hot to touch. However, if you are shooting an actual rifle, that suppressor will get hot. Very hot, very fast. It traps all the heat that otherwise would be shooting out into the atmosphere, and then—surprise bonus—radiates it back to you, into your barrel and handguard! Wearing a suppressor, your gun itself will get noticeably hotter. My Daniel Defense Mk 18 normally takes three 30-round mags through it rapid-fire before the handguard gets a bit toasty for a bare hand, but when I attached my Surefire SOCOM556 RC2 to it, I barely got through 50 rounds before the gun was sizzling my fingers, and it took FOREVER to cool down. The more metal there is in the suppressor, the



The first and biggest thing Tarr learned as a new suppressor owner is that they're incredible heat sinks. That can will get hot very quickly and stay hot.

longer it will take to cool down...and there's a lot of metal in that Surefire. A suppressor will renew your interest in gloves, rail covers, vertical fore-grips, hand stops, etc., anything and everything that gets your hand further away from the barrel or provides another layer of insulation. And get you researching suppressor covers, as accidentally touching that griddle-hot can will be an instant life lesson.

2. Sometimes small and light is better than quiet—5.56 is arguably one of the top three most popular calibers in the U.S. to suppress (along with .22 and 9mm). But unlike those two calibers, 5.56/.223 remains super-sonic no matter what, which means

even with a suppressor in place, your 5.56/.223 AR is not ear safe. It's not quiet, it's just not as noisy. So, noise reduction in a 5.56 can isn't nearly as important as other factors, such as size and weight. I love everything about my Surefire SOCOM556 RC2 but the weight—that convenient QD attachment adds weight, as does the beefy military-grade construction, and as a result you really feel the weight (17 ounces) when that suppressor is attached. It immediately got me interested in titanium direct thread suppressors, some of which are nearly half the weight. I barely feel the weight of my Banish 30, a mostly titanium can that in short configuration weighs



Not all suppressors are the same, and sometimes weight matters. The Surefire SOCOM556 RC2 on the bottom is built military-tough, but that toughness comes at a 17-ounce weight. The Banish 30 (top) on the other hand, is mostly titanium and weighs just 11.2 ounces.

THE FOOD CHAIN ENDS HERE



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CALIBER	BARREL	WEIGHT	LENGTH	AVAILABLE COLORS		
	.223 WYLDE FOR 5.56 & .223	16" FLUTED BEAD BLASTED STAINLESS STEEL, CRYOGENICALLY TREATED, 1:8 TWIST	7.6 LBS	35.5"	TAN ROCKOTE FINISH	GUNMETAL GRAY ROCKOTE FINISH
						GHOST CAMO



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◀ With certain calibers, quietness is the only thing that matters. On the left is a Banish 30 on a 300 Blackout AR, on the right is a Banish 45 on a 9mm HK SP5. There is a big difference in how quiet certain suppressors are.

► You pay for QD in both \$\$ and weight...but maybe it's worth it. This Surefire SOCOM556 RC2 will fit on any compatible Surefire muzzle device, which means you can swap it between guns in seconds.



just 11.2 ounces. A former Green Beret I know loves the durability of the Surefire suppressors, but chooses their Mini simply because it is the shortest and lightest, and the increased noise doesn't matter to him. Our own David Fortier has spent a lot of time looking at different (lighter) mounting options for his various 5.56 YHM suppressors, and figured out how to cut the weight of one of them by 7 ounces simply by removing a QD attachment mount and swapping out a factory steel part with an aftermarket titanium one from Rearden Manufacturing, which specializes in lighter/improved parts for mounting suppressors (ReardenMFG.com)

3. Sometimes quiet is the only thing that matters—I don't consider any suppressor "ear safe" with supersonic calibers, no matter what their manufacturer might claim, or what the OSHA decibel standards are. But an uncomfortably loud crack when hunting with a suppressor is hugely different than touching off a .300 WinMag while hunting with no suppressor and no hearing protection. Subsonic calibers, on the other hand, are a completely different animal.

If you're shooting subs, you have a suppressor on that gun because you want it to be quiet. As close to silent as possible. Unfortunately, almost no gun/cartridge combination apart from some .22s are Hollywood quiet through a suppressor, but you still want to get as close to 0dB as possible. And I've found that not every suppressor is the same when it comes to noise reduction. Generally, the bigger the suppressor, the quieter it will be, but internal design does make a difference. With suppressors for 9mm and .45 ACP pistols, you have to balance the length and weight of the suppressor with your desire for noise reduction. With rifles, one caliber currently very popular to suppress is .300 AAC Blackout. With subsonic ammunition, this gun can be very quiet—but there is a huge difference in noise reduction with various .30 suppressors. Many .30 suppressors are meant to handle the blast of .308 Win and .300 WinMags, but that makes them less than ideal to shush the comparatively anemic subsonic 300 BLK. "General purpose" .30 cans work decently well with 300 BLK, but for the utmost in quiet you will most likely

want a suppressor purpose-built for that caliber. The Q Thunder Chicken and the Surefire SOCOM300 SPS are two that immediately come to mind. Either will get your .300 Blackout as close to Hollywood quiet as possible. I've fired a 300 BLK Honey Badger wearing that Surefire can, and the bullet hits on steel at 50 yards were louder than the gun going off.

4. You pay for QD in both \$\$ and weight...but maybe it's worth it. The first suppressor I ever bought was a Surefire SOCOM556 RC2 solely because it came with Surefire's QD attachment, which fits the can onto any AR with a compatible Surefire muzzle device. You can swap it between guns in just seconds, and the shift in point of impact is minimal. It is amazingly convenient, and if you have more than one rifle that you think you might want sharing a suppressor, cans that offer a quick attach-detach mounting system to a common muzzle device (and there are a number of them out there) might be exactly what you want. However, there is no such thing as a free lunch. Those QD mounts add length, cost, and weight to your suppressor, and require you to buy a specific type of muzzle device (which is another expense). If you are buying a suppressor with the intent of only putting it on one gun, and leaving it there, it makes much more sense to go with a direct-thread model. **FN**



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They Did It Their Way!

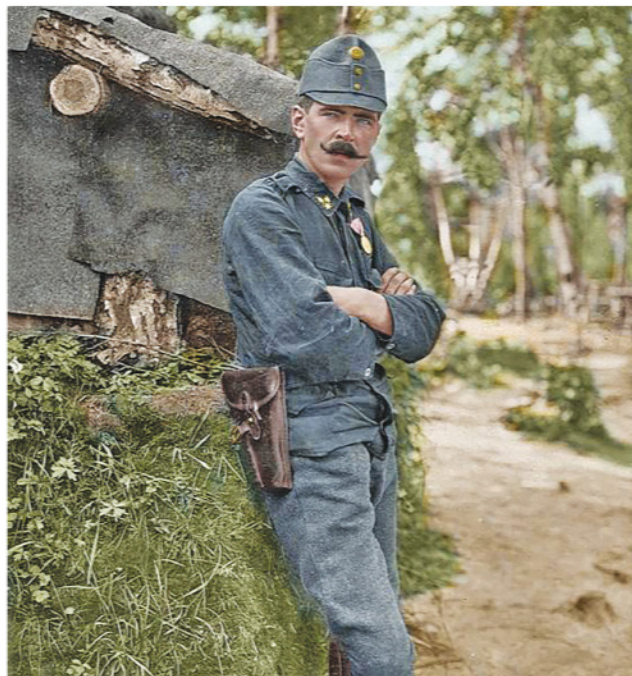
Photos by Michael Hughes & Becky Scarlata

Certain armies were well known for their practice of adopting firearms with unique characteristics. Whether this was the result of a fascination with a certain mechanical peculiarity, the influence of some preeminent engineer or administrator, national pride, financial constraints or lack of outside influences, certain nations have tended to produce military small arms with a “national character.” Perhaps none is better known than the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

The handguns used by the empire during this period — such as the massive Gasser 11mm Cavallerie-Revolver M.1870 revolver — reinforced this trend towards unique (oddball?) designs. Fortunately in the area of rifle design the Austro-Hungarian army found salvation in the talents of Ferdinand von Mannlicher. And while his clip loading rifles were indeed the first truly practical military repeaters they are better known for their straight-pull bolt action when everyone else in the world was going with a turn bolt design.

In 1898, the Austro-Hungarian army made its first hesitant steps towards modernizing their handguns when they adopted the 8mm Rast & Gasser Infanterierevolver. The late

A WWI Hungarian officer wearing a holstered M.7 pistol.



19th Century saw the development of the first successful, albeit less than practical, semiautomatic pistols. Several Central European gun designers became fascinated with adapting Mauser's new charger (stripper clip) loading system to the new breed of self-loading pistols. And while the resulting pistols cannot be considered overly practical it should come as no

surprise that they would attain their greatest popularity within the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

Karel Krnka (1858–1926), a Czech engineer who was one of the more prolific firearms designers of his day. In 1895 he patented a semiautomatic pistol which had two features that became trademarks of his pistol designs: a long recoil operating system and a



The M.7 was loaded with a ten-round charger. (Lou Behling photo)



non-detachable magazine within the grip that was loaded with chargers. In 1898, Krnka went to work at the Georg Roth Patronenfabrik in Licht-enwörth, Austria which provided him

with the means to perfect his pistol.¹ As Roth's factory did not possess the facilities to manufacture firearms it was arranged for Krnka's pistol to be produced by the Sauer Company in

Germany around 1900 as the 7,65mm Roth-Sauer Selbstlade-pistole.²

While commercial success and military orders at first eluded them, Krnka's (and Roth's) fortunes changed in 1905 when the Austro-Hungarian army announced a series of trials with the aim of finding a semiautomatic pistol. Roth offered an improved Krnka design for consideration, and



Pre-WWI Hungarian hussars. The officer on the left is holding a M.7 Repetierpistole.



Two unidentified officers displaying very unsafe gun handling with M.7 Repetier-pistolen. (Courtesy porteppee.de)



1943. A Yugoslav Chetnik armed with a M.7 Roth pistol.

after trials against pistols submitted by Luger and Mauser it was adopted in 1907 as the 8mm Repetier-Pistole M.7 (a.k.a M.7 Roth-Krnka, M.07 Roth-Steyr).

Note: Austria-Hungary the first major military power to adopt a semiauto pistol as their standard issue handgun. And

before my overworked editor is deluged by irate letters from readers let me add that while the Swiss adopted the Parabellum pistol in 1900 I do not consider them a “major” military power. And while the Parabellum was also taken into service in Germany in 1904, it was only used by the Imperial Navy and did not become general issue until after 1908.

The M.7 followed the distinctive outline of the earlier Roth-Sauer with rounded grip, tubular receiver, and a separate bolt with an exposed knurled head for cocking. It utilized a rotating barrel to lock and unlock the action which, while it was characteristic of other Austrian service pistols, saw little use elsewhere.

The bolt extends the full length of the tubular receiver. The forward portion of the bolt is hollowed out to surround the barrel, both of which are inserted into the receiver from the front. Four cam lugs on the barrel, two near the muzzle and two near the chamber, move within helical grooves in the muzzle bushing and at the rear of the hollowed out portion of the bolt, locking the bolt and barrel together.

When fired the M.7's bolt and barrel recoil together about half an



Acceptance and unit markings on Tim's M.7.

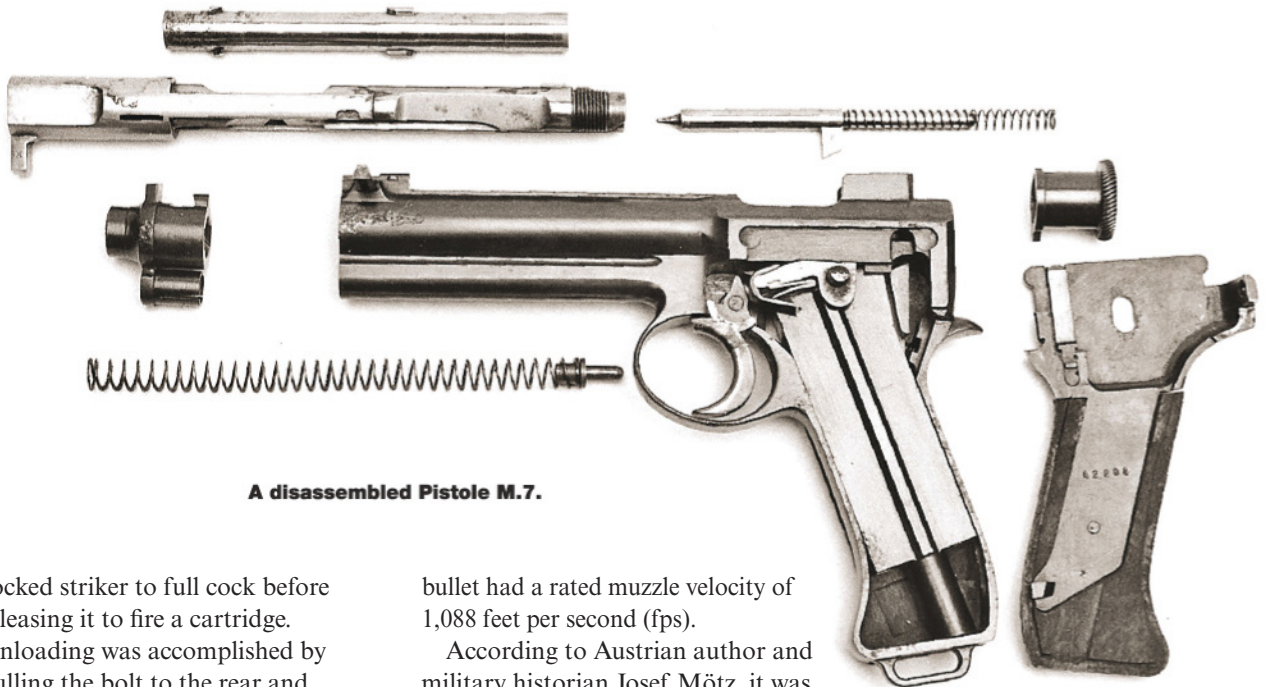
inch whereupon the forward lugs move in the barrel bushing grooves to rotate the barrel which in turn rotates the two lugs at the rear of the barrel approximately 90 degrees to unlock the bolt from the barrel and allow it to continue rearward extracting and ejecting the empty cartridge. The bolt is then pulled forward by the recoil spring, stripping the next cartridge from the magazine and chambering it. As the barrel moves forward, it is rotated in the opposite direction once again locking again.

The M.7 was loaded by pulling the breech bolt to the rear and pushing in a small square button on the left rear of the frame locking it in place. A ten round charger was then inserted into the guides at the rear of the ejection port and the cartridges pushed down into the magazine. The clip was then removed, and the bolt retracted slightly, allowing it to travel forward and chamber a round.

As the bolt moved forward the striker was held in a partially cocked position and its tail projected out the end of the breech bolt knob where it acted as a loaded chamber indicator. It utilized a rather unique trigger system in which a semi-double action trigger — with a fairly long and heavy stroke — drew back the partially



Test firing was performed offhand from seven yards with very pleasing results.



A disassembled Pistolet M.7.

cocked striker to full cock before releasing it to fire a cartridge. Unloading was accomplished by pulling the bolt to the rear and locking it open and then pressing the lever above the left grip panel which allowed the contents of the magazine to be ejected out the top of the pistol.

The cavalry — the most prestigious branch of the Austro-Hungarian armed forces — felt that the M.7 had all the advantages of the new semi-auto pistols: high magazine capacity, fast reloading and easier handling; but with the traditional safety features of a revolver type trigger. It was felt this combination of features would prevent accidents of the type envisioned if troopers on frisky mounts were armed with pistols with light, single action triggers.

Roth arranged for the M.7 to be manufactured by the Österreichische Waffenfabrik-Gesellschaft of Steyr. Additional M.7s were also produced by Femaru Fegyver es Gepgyar in Budapest, Hungary and the manufacturer's name is found on the top of the receiver. Limited production appears to have continued at both facilities after WWI.

The M.7 was chambered for a proprietary cartridge, the 8mm M.7 scharfe Pistolepatrone (a.k.a. 8mm Roth-Steyr). It consisted of a straight walled, rimless case 18.5mm long whose 116-grain full metal jacketed (FMJ)

bullet had a rated muzzle velocity of 1,088 feet per second (fps).

According to Austrian author and military historian Josef Mötz, it was used by all branches of the Austro-Hungarian armed forces and navy and limited numbers were released on the civilian market. Late in the war many M.7s were issued to the Flying Corps where they were referred to as "Flieger-Pistolen." After the war, both Austria and Hungary continued to use the M.7 pistols while numbers were supplied as war reparations to Serbia, Greece, Rumania, Italy, Poland and Czechoslovakia.

When Hitler incorporated Austria into the German Reich in 1938, most Austrian army units were reequipped with German equipment while Austrian weapons, including the M.7 pistols were put into storage. As WWII wore on and the Wehrmacht became desperate for additional small arms some M.7 pistols were issued. Others showed up in the hands of partisans in the Balkans while the Italians continued to manufacture 8mm M.7 ammunition for theirs.

My friend Tim Hawkins provided me a Steyr-made M.7 whose acceptance marks showing it had been taken into service in 1909 and had a marking disc indicating it was the 10th pistol issued to the Landwehr Ulan Regiment 6.

I test fired Tim's M.7 offhand from seven yards. It pointed very naturally,

and the trigger pull had a definite two stage stroke with a fairly light let off. Despite its small sights, and using Fiocchi 8mm Steyr ammunition, I put all my rounds in the target's A zone and "head." And despite its age I did not experience a single malfunction. Not too bad for ein altes Mädchen (an old girl) from Steyr. **FN**

1 Krnka employed a number of features designed by another Roth employee, Wasa Theodorović.

2 The 7.65mm Roth-Sauer cartridge used a shorter case than the 7.65mm Browning (.32 ACP).

SPECIFICATIONS 8MM REPETIER-PISTOLE M.7

Caliber:	8mm M.7 scharfe Pistolen-Patrone
Overall Length:	9.2 inches
Barrel Length:	5.2 inches
Weight:	36 ounces (empty)
Magazine:	10 rd. charger loaded
Sights, Front:	Inverted V blade
Rear:	V notch
Value :	\$2,000+



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SIG SAUER CROSS MAGNUM

SIG Stretches Their Popular Cross Rifle
into the World of Magnums!

By David M. Fortier, Executive Editor
Lead photo by Mike Anschuetz

When it was introduced a few years back, SIG Sauer's Cross rifle excited many with its looks, features and price. Here was a lightweight bolt-action rifle with all the positive features of a modern AR. Visually, the Cross stood out from the crowd. It has a handguard like an AR, a magazine well like an AR, and a safety like an AR. Plus, it is short, very light, and features a handy side-folding stock. In the hands, the rifle feels very lively, it is quick to the shoulder and swings easily and its light weight makes it easy to tote on long treks. The Cross makes a good hunting companion, and many took note of this interesting design.





Like SIG Sauer's Cross rifle concept but want magnum performance? Check out the new Cross Magnum initially offered in .300 Win Mag.



The Cross Magnum takes the best features of the original Cross design and builds upon them to make an even better western hunting rifle.

It wasn't long before many hunters out West began pinning for a Cross with a bit more impact on target at longer ranges than the short-action cartridges provided. While the .308 Win and 6.5mm Creedmoor work well for the ranges most in the country hunt out, out west, the ranges can get a mite longer. Many desired a SIG Sauer Cross rifle, but chambered in a flatter shooting and harder hitting magnum cartridge. SIG Sauer responded with their new Cross Magnum.

Rather than simply lengthening the action, SIG Sauer took the opportunity to refine and improve the design when developing this new model. The new action is not only longer but it has been designed to allow quick barrel changes by the end-user without disturbing the scope. You can remove the handguard and barrel now while leaving your scope mounted. They also improved the hinge of the side-folding stock. This provides better retention and a stronger lock-up. Plus, the free-floating handguard features full-length M-LOK and ARCA rails for easy mounting of accessories and bipod/tripods.

The new Cross Magnum is distinctive looking with its aluminum construction and Coyote anodized finish. The rifle features an effective radial compensator which does an excellent job of reducing felt recoil. The muzzle is cut with common 5/8x24 threads, so attaching a sound suppressor or other muzzle device is straight-forward. Barrel length is 24 inches, and the medium contour barrel is machined



The Cross Magnum is chambered in the .300 Win Mag seen here with some other popular cartridges (L to R): .308 Win, .260 Rem, 6.5mm Creedmoor, 6.5mm PRC, 6.5x55mm, and .300 Win Mag with its distinctive belt above the rim.



Rather than simply lengthening the action, SIG Sauer took the opportunity to refine and improve the design when developing this new model.



The Cross Magnum is designed to allow quick barrel changes by the end-user without disturbing the scope.

from stainless steel. It features 5R rifling and the rifling twist is one turn in nine inches to facilitate use with longer/heavier modern high BC match/hunting bullets.

Surrounding the free-floating barrel is a long aluminum handguard. This features an ARCA rail along its bottom which allows easy attachment/adjustment of different accessories such as bipods and tripods. The handguard also features M-LOK slots at 12, 3, 6, and 9 o'clock. These reduce weight, can be used as mounting points for accessories and provide ventilation to aid barrel cooling. The handguard bolts directly to the receiver, it does not attach to the barrel nut like an AR-15. This makes for a more rigid

and robust mounting system and reduces flexing of the handguard.

The receiver is a modern looking piece designed for function, but with a definite artistic style to it. An extended M1913 rail runs along the top facilitating easy mounting of long scopes. This extends out over the handguard providing plenty of room when you are setting your scope's eye-relief. The rifle feeds from an AICS pattern six-round magazine. The magazine well features an ambidextrous



The effective radial compensator does an excellent job of reducing felt recoil.



The aluminum handguard mounts directly to the receiver and features an ARCA rail along its bottom and M-LOK slots.

SIG SAUER CROSS MAGNUM



The aluminum receiver is built for function but definitely has some style to it.



The design features an ambidextrous safety and mag release along with a two-stage match trigger.

magazine release at its rear, inside the trigger guard. This protects it from accidental bumps while also being easy to reach and manipulate. The bolt handle is extended and provides plenty of leverage. Inside the receiver is a beefy three-lug rotating bolt. This cocks on opening and operates smoothly. The receiver is sized to be large enough to handle cartridge lengths up to that of the 300 PRC. Ambidextrous safety levers are fitted just above the pistol grip. The trigger is a two-stage match design.

At the rear of the receiver is a hinge for the side-folding stock. The stock folds to the right side of the receiver and tucks in neatly with the bolt handle. A skeletonized design, the comb is adjustable for height while the rubber recoil pad can be moved to change the length of pull and height. Rather than having to carry an Allen wrench or two though, the adjustments are easily made without tools. On the right side of the stock, you will find the controls for making any desired adjustments. These are simple to do. Plus, you will find a sling socket on the right side. On the bottom, a contoured piece is fitted to better ride on bags, and for your off hand to grip. The butt pad is fairly soft



The bolt handle is long and well angled to provide plenty of leverage for rapid operation of the bolt.

and keeps the butt from sliding around while doing a nice job of helping to soak up the recoil.

The bare rifle weighs in at 8.9 pounds with an empty magazine inserted. Overall length, with the stock locked in place, is 45.2 inches. Folding the stock reduces the overall length to just 36 inches. The looks of the rifle are very untraditional. You will either love its appearance or hate it. It has a very business-like appeal with not a hint of walnut to be seen. I personally find SIG Sauer's Cross much to my



The bare rifle weighs just 8.9 pounds with an empty magazine and it carries well.



The rifle feeds from an AICS pattern six-round magazine.



The skeletonized stock features a comb adjustable for height while the rubber recoil pad can be moved to change the length of pull and height.

liking, and the Cross Magnum simply turns up the volume. But not everyone has the same tastes or needs.

I was excited to get behind SIG's new magnum, so I mounted my shop-mule Vortex 6-36x56mm Razor HD Gen III using a Geissele mount. A sling is to a rifle what a holster is to a pistol. One of my favorites for this application is Savvy Sniper's (SavvySniper.com) Precision Patrol Sling X. It is wide, has a fast adjust slider and a Cobra quick release buckle. Its width allows it to carry a heavy precision rifle comfortably and it can be quickly cinched down to add tension/support. Finally, I added a Harris bipod on a LaRue Tactical QD swivel mount.

For test ammunition, I selected three factory loads and one handload. The factory loads ran from 190 to 150 grains and consisted of SIG Sauer's 190-grain OTM Match, Winchester's 180-grain AccuBond and their 150-grain XP3. I didn't have any factory loads heavier than 190-grains so I tried an old handload with a 208-grain Hornady AMAX bullet and a very mild charge of Hodgdon Hybrid 100V powder.

Before we see how SIG Sauer's new Cross Magnum rifle performed, let's delve into the .300 Winchester Magnum cartridge and why you should consider it. Is there a reason to select this older design over a modern 6.5mm or 7mm? Yes, it is an older design; it was introduced by Winchester Repeating Arms Company way back in 1963. It was preceded by the .264 Win Mag, .338 Win Mag and .458 Win Mag which were all unveiled in 1958. All three of these cartridges were based upon a modified .375 H&H Magnum case.



The stock folds neatly to the right of the receiver and nestles in with the bolt handle.

When Winchester developed their .30 caliber magnum cartridge, they didn't simply neck their .338 Win Mag down. Rather than doing the obvious, they instead tweaked the case design a bit. Namely, they moved the shoulder



Three factory loads and one handload were fired from the bench to check the rifle's accuracy at 100 yards.



While the bolt throw is long, the action is smooth and fairly fast.

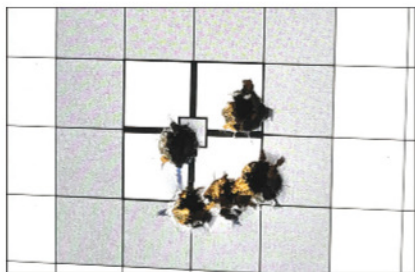
in North America, and do it in a standard length action. Long range shooters appreciate both its exterior ballistics and match winning accuracy at 1,000 yards and beyond. Perhaps, most importantly though, it was developed with the blue collar worker in mind rather than being an expensive snob round. So, loaded ammunition and components are relatively affordable compared to many other magnum cartridges such as the .338 Lapua Magnum.

forward 0.156 inch which increased case capacity, but also gave it a relatively short neck. The result of their work was a large belted magnum with a case length of 2.62 inches. Rim diameter is 0.532 inch while base diameter is 0.513 inch. Shoulder diameter is 0.489 inch and overall cartridge length is 3.34 inches. Maximum SAAMI recommended pressure is 64,000 PSI. Since its introduction, the .300 Win Mag has gone on to become the most popular of all the various .30 caliber magnum cartridges by a large margin.

Why has Winchester's .300 Win Mag been so successful all these years while other cartridges come and go? Well, that's fairly easy to answer. It offers a useful step-up in terminal performance over standard cartridges like the .30-'06 Government for hunters. It will kill anything which needs killing

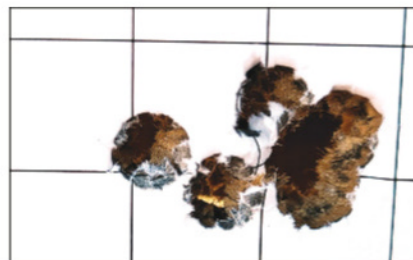
Now, all that said, do not think the .300 Win Mag is by any means perfect. It has its flaws. These include a very short neck. It is actually shorter than the caliber of the bullet loaded into it. Many have criticized this feature, claiming a short neck would not hold a bullet in proper alignment with the axis of the bore. Others have criticized it claiming it provided insufficient tension on the projectile to adequately retain it. This issue is said to be exacerbated by the need to seat heavier/longer bullets very deeply to maintain the .30-'06-like 3.34-inch overall length (OAL). Deeply seated bullets will also reduce case capacity.

Then there is the belt, which can be seen in the photo of this cartridge. A distinctive feature of Winchester's .264, .300, .338 and .458 Magnum cartridges, it is little more than a holdover from the British cartridge they are based upon,



◀ **The SIG Sauer 190-grain OTM Match load shot well, and this is the first five-shot group out of the gun fired at 100 yards.**

▶ **Here are five rounds of a handload using 208-grain AMAX bullets and Hodgdon 100V powder fired from the bench at 100 yards.**



ACCURACY CHART

SIG SAUER CROSS MAGNUM .300 WIN MAG

Load	Bullet Weight (gr.)	Muzzle Velocity (fps)	Standard Deviation	Average Group (in.)
SIG Sauer OTM	190	2,857	17.6	.8
Winchester Accubond	180	3,058	11.3	.9
Winchester XP3	150	3,336	21	1.5
Handload AMAX	208	2,655	14.3	.75

Notes: Accuracy results are averages of four five-shot groups fired from a rest at 100 yards. Velocity figures are 10-shot averages recorded with a LabRadar Doppler chronograph at the muzzle at an ambient temperature of 35 degrees F at 1,030 feet above Sea Level.

the .375 Holland & Holland Magnum. However, it should be kept in mind the justly famous .375 H&H Magnum was first introduced in 1912 as the .375 Belted Rimless Nitro-Express. It is old enough to have been originally loaded with cordite and was only the second cartridge to feature a belt. On a long tapered case intended for dangerous game hunting, during this specific period in time, the belt made sense. In the late 1950s, it was a useful marketing tool to catch the attention of the American sportsman. On the comparatively straight wall .300 Win Mag in the 21st century, it is nothing more than a nuisance.

1920s Style for a 1920s Price

It was a warm summer afternoon and my wife and I were mingling with the best of them. The occasion was a 1920s-themed party, and everyone was dressed to the nines. Parked on the manse's circular driveway was a beautiful classic convertible. It was here that I got the idea for our new 1920s Retrograde Watch.

Never ones to miss an opportunity, we carefully steadied our glasses of bubbly and climbed into the car's long front seat. Among the many opulent features on display was a series of dashboard dials that accentuated the car's lavish aura. One of those dials inspired our 1920s Retrograde Watch, a genuinely unique timepiece that marries timeless style with modern technology.

With its remarkable retrograde hour and minute indicators, sunburst guilloché face and precision movement, this design is truly one of a kind. What does retrograde mean? Instead of displaying the hands rotating on an axis like most watches, the hands sweep in a semicircle, then return to their starting point and begin all over again.

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The Cross Magnum is an easy rifle to field strip and maintain.

Although the .300 Win Mag is designed to headspace on the belt, very few reloaders actually do this. Belt thickness can and does vary, especially from manufacturer to manufacturer. More consistent accuracy can be achieved by head spacing off the shoulder. Reloaders can accomplish this by simply backing their resizing die off $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ turn.

Known and respected for its punching power, the .300 Win Mag has taken all manner of big game. Its ability to hit hard has endeared it to hunters around the world. Big game hunters interested in shooting long will be interested in the Cross Magnum. Teamed with the right bullet and this caliber/rifle would be an impressive combination.

Conditions during testing were 30 degrees F with little wind. The scope zeroed easily in a matter of a few shots and I got to work at 100 yards. Initial testing consisted of firing four five-shot groups with each load from a rest while recording velocities using a LabRadar Doppler Chronograph. Here, the SIG Sauer proved both stable and comfortable. The safety is easy to manipulate and the bolt proved smooth with cartridges feeding with little effort from the box magazine. Recoil is fairly mild due to the weight of the rifle, effective muzzle brake and recoil pad. It proved comfortable to shoot from the bench.

Accuracy at 100 yards proved quite acceptable for a production rifle. However, the barrel heats up very fast and groups opened up on this example once it was hot. The barrel heating rapidly is just par for the course with medium weight barrel .300 Win Mag. If you want to shoot tight groups, take your time and let the barrel cool between strings. If I had been shooting three-shot groups, this rifle would really shine as I had a number measuring .5 of an inch. But, I was

shooting five-shot groups, so they were a bit bigger. SIG Sauer's 190-grain OTM Match load averaged .8 of an inch at 2,857 fps. You'll note the velocity is fairly impressive and the payload is a nice step up from the 6.5mm Creedmoor. Switching to Winchester's 180-grain Accubond hunting load opened the average up slightly to .9 of an inch at 3,058 fps. Winchester's 150-grain XP3 load opened up to 1.5 inches while averaging an impressive 3,336 fps. My very sedate 208-grain AMAX handload averaged .75 inch with an average muzzle velocity of 2,655 fps.

From the bench, I moved to firing prone off a Harris bipod with a rear bag. I decided to try my hand on the various steel plates and silhouettes at 280, 450, and 500 yards. Here, I found the rifle very comfortable and fun to shoot. The magazine loaded easily, inserted with a push and locked firmly into place. The bolt throw is quite long, but the design of the bolt handle provides plenty of leverage

and the rifle fed, extracted and ejected without issue. I like how quick and easy it is to set the stock and comb up to fit me. The trigger was also an aid to shooting tight groups. A two-stage design, it was fairly light and broke crisply. Zero issues were encountered and my 208-grain AMAX handload which stayed sub-MOA at 500 yards.

My thoughts? I like SIG Sauer's Cross Magnum quite a bit. I like the flavor of it, the way it looks and feels. I also like the way it shoots, but the barrel does heat rapidly. It's a comfortable rifle, the trigger is very good and the recoil is mild. For a hunter shooting two or three rounds, this rifle will impress. However, you can expect groups to grow as the barrel heats if you just want to bang off rounds. I would expect SIG Sauer to expand the caliber offerings in the months ahead. MSRP is \$2,729.99. **FN**

SIG SAUER CROSS MAGNUM

Action Type:	Manual rotating bolt with push feed
Caliber:	.300 Winchester Magnum
Capacity:	6+1 detachable AICS box magazine
Barrel:	24 in. stainless steel, 1:9-inch twist
Overall Length:	45.2 in., 36 in. folded
Weight:	8.9 lbs. with empty magazine
Finish:	Anodized Coyote
Trigger:	Two-stage Match
Sights:	None, MIL STD 1913 rail
Safety:	Ambidextrous
Price:	\$2,729.99 (MSRP)
Contact:	(603) 610-3000, SIGSauer.com



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The TISAS PX-9 Duty Night Stalker is a fashionable version of their proven PX-9 design, a striker-fired 9mm with nice features at a very affordable price.

TISAS PX-9 DUTY NIGHT STALKER

Affordable Performance, With Style

By James Tarr

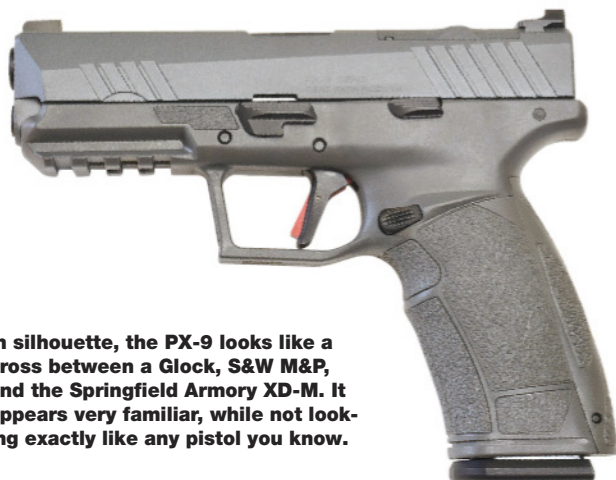
TISAS has an entire line of Night Stalker pistols. The Night Stalkers have gray finishes with black accents and different/improved sights/features over standard models. I've reviewed a Night Stalker 1911 previously, but this is a completely different animal—TISAS's PX-9 is a modern, polymer-framed striker-fired optics-ready 9mm semi-auto. The PX-9 Duty Night Stalker is set up as a defensive/duty gun but seems like it would be a great choice for a home defense piece, and a fun gun to run at a USPSA or IDPA match.

Technically, this is the third generation of PX-9 pistols, and TISAS offers seven different versions of it. The PX-9 is not a new design, and TISAS has been building it for various law enforcement and military agencies around the

world for a few years. The PX-9 Duty Night Stalker is a full-size 9mm pistol sporting a 4.11-inch barrel. Overall, it is 7.4-inches long and 5.8-inches tall with a magazine inserted. With an empty flush magazine in place, it weighs 27.8 ounces.

It is fed by SIG P226-pattern magazines, and one flush 18-rounder and one extended 20-rounder come with the pistol. If you've never cared for the aggressive grip angle of the Glock, this pistol is for you—the PX-9 has the same grip angle as the SIG P226, which is very close to that of the 1911.

I think this magazine choice was a smart move—the P226 magazines are a reliable, combat-proven design that have been around for decades. The standard SIG P226



In silhouette, the PX-9 looks like a cross between a Glock, S&W M&P, and the Springfield Armory XD-M. It appears very familiar, while not looking exactly like any pistol you know.



The Gen 3 PX-9 has a recontoured slide, modular grip, and is fed by the very reliable and common SIG P226 magazines. That's a flush 18-rounder in the gun here.

flush magazine holds 15-rounds, and those will work in this pistol (and are available everywhere), but companies have been making flush 18-rounders for years. I use Mec-Gar 18-rounders in my P226, and the magazines provided with the PX-9 come from Check-Mate, another proven aftermarket magazine company.

Before I move away from the magazines, let me point out that while the mag well in the frame is nicely beveled, the PX-9 Night Stalker comes with an optional oversize magazine well. It is polymer, slides into place, and is secured with one screw. It is designed to be a “carry” mag well, not protruding any further than the bottom of the 18-round magazine, only adding about half an inch of width while seriously enlarging the magazine well opening.

Gray finish aside, in looks this pistol seems to be the love child of an illicit breeding experiment between a Springfield Amory XD-M, Smith & Wesson M&P, and a Glock 17. It appears very familiar, while not looking exactly like any pistol you know. The slide has a flat top and clean lines, with aggressive flat-bottomed serrations forward and back. Various PX-9 models have different sights—the Night Stalker has excellent all-steel tactical day/night sights.

The front sight is a HiViz unit with a very visible orange ring around a tritium insert for use in all lighting conditions. The rear sight is plain black and aggressively serrated. The rear sight also has a ledge at the front, so you can rack the pistol one-handed if necessary.

Forward of the rear sight you'll see an aluminum plate given the same “Night Stalker gray” Cerakote as the rest of the gun. Remove the plate and you'll see the slide is cut to accept optics using the Trijicon RMR footprint. I used a Trijicon SRO in testing, which has the same footprint as the RMR, but with a bigger window, and the slide cutout was perfect—the SRO fit in there tightly with no gap front or back. You will be able to use your sights through the RMR's window, but just barely, as only the top third of your front sight is visible.

The PX-9 comes with great day/night sights made by HiViz. The front sight has a tritium insert surrounded by an orange ring, the combo visible in any lighting condition.



The rear sight is plain black and serrated. At the rear of the slide, you can see the tip of the striker, painted red, showing you it's cocked.

Inside the slide you'll see the standard tilting barrel with an integral ramp. The PX-9, like so many 9mms these days, is equipped with a dual spring recoil system. This seems to be all the rage these days, sticking overly beefy recoil systems into 9mms like they're chambered in 10mm, but those dual springs should last forever.

The pivoting extractor is meant to work as a loaded chamber indicator. Also inside the slide is a striker block drop safety.



The PX-9 Night Stalker comes with one flush 18-rounder and one extended 20-round magazine as seen here, as well as this polymer magazine well which is easily added/removed.

When the striker is cocked, you can see the tip of it at the rear of the slide. It has a red dot painted on it. When the striker is forward, neither it nor the dot are visible. Per TISAS, this is a single-action striker-fired gun—the striker is fully cocked with the slide at rest. This results in a very nice trigger pull, about as short, light, and crisp as striker-fired guns get. I headed to the range and put rounds downrange before I had a chance to measure the trigger pull, which just seemed to get better with use. When I finally measured it, the pull came in at a crisp, smooth $3\frac{3}{4}$ pounds. Total trigger travel is about the length of just the take-up on the average Glock trigger. The trigger itself is steel, with a wide flat face and the standard pivoting safety lever in the center, colored red. The trigger breaks close to ninety degrees, helping you stay on target.

Against the gray Night Stalker finish you've got black accents. The trigger, takedown lever, slide stop, magazine release, magazine well, and all the pins are black, for a nice color contrast. The trigger, slide stop, takedown lever, and magazine release are all steel. The magazine release is reversible for left-handers.

The rail on the pistol is a standard MIL SPEC 1913 “Picatinny” rail with four slots, big enough to fit just about any weapon light. The serial number is etched into a steel plate set into the center of the rail.



You get everything seen here with the pistol, one 18- and one 20-round magazine, magazine loader, bore brush, cleaning rod, trigger lock, magazine well, three sets of backstraps and grip panels, plus an IWB holster.



The controls have a somewhat low profile, giving the pistol a streamlined look and feel. The trigger is aluminum, with a flat face and a red polymer safety lever in the center.

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You get forward cocking serrations and texturing on the frame and the front of the trigger guard for your support hand fingers.

Unlike most competing pistols, the PX-9 doesn't just have interchangeable backstraps but also interchangeable side panels. TISAS provides three different size backstraps and side panels, and you can mix and match (a small left panel with a large right panel and a medium backstrap, for example) for a total 27 different grip variations. Removing one pin allows you to slide the backstrap off (down), and once that's out the grip panels slide to the rear. The large size panels and backstrap do add meat under your hand.

TISAS provides a punch to remove that pin, and this seems a good time to point out all the extras you get with this gun. With the pistol you get a trigger lock, magazine loader, bore brush, cleaning rod, push pin, one 18- and one 20-round magazine, magazine well, three sets of backstraps and grip panels, and owner's manual, all in foam cutouts inside a lockable case. The cutout for the pistol is even relieved for an optic. However, the most interesting thing about the accessory package was the minimalistic IWB holster provided with the pistol.

The polymer holster covered the trigger guard and most of the frame rail up to the bottom of the slide, but that's it. It has a steel belt loop that is adjustable for cant, so this holster would work as a standard IWB rig or for appendix carry. The holster clamps onto the trigger guard with just the right amount of tightness. It is just this kind of added value in accessories that I wish more gun companies provided with their pistols.

The texturing on this pistol is less aggressive than some. There is texturing on the front of the trigger guard, on the frame above the front of the trigger guard (for the thumb of your support hand), on the front strap, the grip panels, and the backstrap. There is also a single finger groove on the frame just under the trigger guard. The pistol didn't move in my hand while shooting. That said, I do have a slightly picky complaint—the X-pattern on the back of the gun puts a lot of smooth plastic under the heel of my



The PX-9 doesn't just have interchangeable backstraps, but grip inserts as well. You get three sizes and can mix and match, for 27 different combinations.



One unexpected extra with the pistol was this minimalist IWB holster. The steel belt loop pivots for adjustability.



The only complaint Tarr had with the pistol was very minor—the smooth spot at the bottom rear of the grip, which presses against the palm of your hand, where texturing would be very welcome.

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TISAS PX-9 DUTY NIGHT STALKER



The front of the rear sight is vertical, allowing you to rack the pistol one-handed. Removing the aluminum plate will let you mount optics with a Trijicon RMR footprint directly to the slide.



You can mount optics with the Trijicon RMR footprint (like this SRO) directly to the slide. You can see the tips of your sights through the window, but just barely.



Fieldstripping the PX-9 for cleaning is quick and simple. For as robust as the dual recoil spring system looks, cycling the slide wasn't difficult.

hand, right where texturing would do the most good. Most people won't shoot enough, or be good enough, to even know if this slick spot causes them problems, but that's really my only nitpick with this pistol—otherwise it is quite impressive. More impressive than I was expecting before I opened the case, considering the \$379.99 MSRP of this gun.

TISAS is an acronym and thus properly capitalized. TISAS stands for Trabzon Silah Sanayi AŞ, and was founded in 1993 in Trabzon, Turkey. Trabzon is on the Black Sea coast of Turkey, and this area is home to a lot of small and medium manufacturing.



Tarr first took the PX-9 Night Stalker to an indoor range, where the highly visible front sight worked very well.



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The first rounds Tarr shot out of the PX-9 Night Stalker to check function. This was five rounds of Magtech steel case 115-grain FMJ fired at a reduced silhouette at ten yards—a tight group, which hit exactly to point of aim. You can’t do much better than that.

I’ve been there, visiting another firearms manufacturer (Sarsilmaz). These companies are all using top-of-the-line 3-, 4-, and 5-axis CNC machines, no different than firearms manufacturers anywhere else in the world—CNC machines don’t know what country they’re in. TISAS can afford to sell these pistols at lower prices because the cost of living in Turkey (and thus salaries) is less than half of what it is in the U.S. When I was in Turkey in 2012 the average employee at Sarsilmaz was making \$12,000 US a year, which was good money.

We are living in an era where the government is actively trying to disarm citizens, and everyone in the mainstream media is against private firearms ownership, so you may think “Night Stalker” is a terrible name for a pistol. If you’re under 40, Night Stalker probably sounds like a serial killer. It makes me think of *Kolchak: The Night Stalker*, the short-lived TV show starring Darren McGavin which directly inspired *The X-Files*. The name definitely gets your attention, as does the gray/black color scheme, which I think is the point. My opinion of the name? Whether it’s the name, the magazine capacity, or something else, the people who hate guns, and hate the people who own guns, will always find a reason to rationalize their psychopathy—refuse to bend a knee to them.

When it came time to hit the range Michigan was warmer than usual for January, which means instead of single digit temperatures and ankle-deep snow we were dealing with a lot of rain. When I first started shooting, there were only a handful of indoor ranges in the Detroit area. Now there are a dozen, and I decided to try out a local Range USA location. Range USA is a chain of indoor ranges/gun stores with at least fifty locations in thirteen states stretching from Michigan across the center of the country to Texas. I’d heard of them, but never visited.

The Range USA location I visited had twenty clean, modern 25-yard lanes. They don’t allow rapid fire, drawing from the holster, or targets with the images of people, so they are far from perfect, but more shooting opportunities for people in urban and suburban environs—the ones

most likely to need their CCW guns—are always better. And the range was busy at 1 PM on a Thursday afternoon, which was great. The more people who own guns, the more gunowners out practicing, the better.

The orange ring in the front sight was very visible even indoors, and the PX-9 swallowed every type of JHP I fed it. It was very fun and controllable to shoot, and the excellent trigger allowed me at least the opportunity of shooting up to the pistol’s inherent accuracy. With most loads it was hitting to point of aim out to 25 yards.

I opened the box on the PX-9 Duty Night Stalker expecting to be underwhelmed by yet another soulless plastic hole-puncher and came away sincerely impressed by it. **FN**

TISAS USA PX-9 DUTY NIGHT STALKER					
Load	Bullet Weight (gr.)	Velocity (fps)	SD	Avg Group (in.)	Best Group (in.)
Black Hills TAC-XP+P	115	1,170	11	3.6	3.1
Magtech Steel Case FMJ	115	1,132	16	3.5	3.2
Hornady XTP+P	124	1,141	19	3.1	2.5
SIG Elite FMJ	124	1,145	25	4.0	3.4
Federal Gold Medal Action Pistol FMJFP	147	924	18	3.0	2.7
Accuracy results are the averages of four five-shot groups at 25 yards from a sandbag rest. Velocities are averages of ten shots measured with an Oehler Model 35P 12 feet from the muzzle.					

TISAS USA PX-9 DUTY NIGHT STALKER PISTOL	
Type:	Single action striker-fired semi-auto
Caliber:	9mm
Capacity:	18+1
Barrel Length:	4.11 inches
Overall Length:	7.4 inches
Height:	5.8 inches
Width:	1.3 inches
Weight (Unloaded, No Magazine):	27.8 oz.
Slide Material:	Steel
Frame Material:	Polymer, Night Stalker gray Cerakote
Safeties:	Striker block safety, trigger safety
Sights:	HiViz day/night sights
Trigger:	3.75 lbs. (as tested)
Accessories:	One 18- and one 20-rd. magazine, magazine loader, IWB holster, bore brush, cleaning rod, trigger lock, magazine well, three sets of backstraps and grip panels, lockable hard case
MSRP:	\$379.99
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THE FN FAL:

IS THIS THE WORLD'S BEST 7.62X51MM BATTLE RIFLE?

By Leroy Thompson

I've done quite a bit of shooting with 7.62x51mm Battle Rifles and have done books on two of them—the M14 and G3. I've also done quite a bit of shooting with the Beretta BM59, SIG 510-4 (AMT), and a lot of shooting with the FN FAL. My favorite by a substantial margin is the FN FAL, especially the Para model.

The FN FAL has been used by up to 100 countries from Angola to Zimbabwe, though, as this is written, most have replaced it with a 5.56x45 or 7.62x39mm assault rifle. Fortunately, for US shooters, FN produced high quality, but pricey, semi-auto versions of the FN FAL back in the 1970s and 1980s. Springfield Armory also offered a version in the late 1980s until President George H.W. Bush banned

importation in 1989. After its replacement in various countries, semi-auto versions produced from kits have been available at reasonable prices.

Post World War II, NATO countries sought to standardize on select fire rifles with a detachable box magazine. Some European members of NATO were interested in a rifle chambering an intermediate cartridge akin to the 7.92x33mm Kurz chambered by the World War II German *Sturmgewehr*. The .280 British or the .276 Peterson were examples. The US opted for a cartridge more compact than the .30-06 long-time standard service cartridge, which resulted in adoption of the 7.62x51mm (AKA .308 Winchester) round for the M14 rifle. As the most powerful



An example of an early import FN FAL with wooden furniture. (Courtesy of Rock Island Auction Service)

member of NATO, the US was in a position to dictate the standard service cartridge; hence, the adoption of the 7.62x51mm NATO round.

FN had actually begun work on what became the FN FAL (*Fusil Automatique Leger*) in 1946 and had adopted the rifle in 1953, though initially the Belgians had intended for the rifle to fire an intermediate 7.92x33mm cartridge. In return for NATO adopting the 7.62x51mm cartridge, the US agreed to test the FN FAL with the designation T48 against the Garand-based T44 rifle (the M14), the implication being the FN FAL might become the new US service rifle. Though the US-produced T48 manufactured by Harrington & Richardson performed well in the trials, the US adopted the domestically designed M14. The 7.62x51mm NATO round had become standard for the M14 and FN FAL and later the HK G3 and Beretta BM59. To differentiate these rifles, which fired the more powerful cartridge from “assault rifles,” they have normally been designated “battle rifles.” In evaluating the wisdom of adopting the battle rifle versus the assault rifle, remember that it was foreseen that NATO forces would be engaging SKS/ AK47 armed Warsaw Pact troops on the North German Plain where their



A member of the USMC firing an FN FAL offhand. (Defense Imagery)

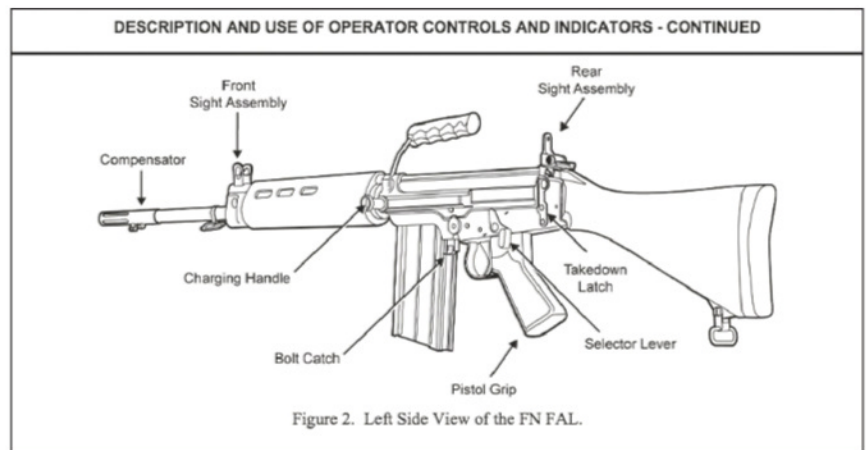
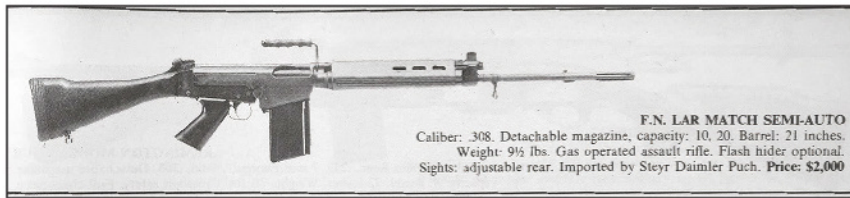


Diagram of FN FAL controls from the USMC manual on the rifle. (USMC)



A HOWA import FN FAL Para model. (Courtesy of Rock Island Auction Service)

THE FN FAL



The FN FAL as it appeared in the 1982 *Guns & Ammo Annual* catalog. At \$2,000 in 1982, today's price would be over \$6,350.



FAL accessories that accompanied some pre-ban imported rifles. (Courtesy of Rock Island Auction Service)



The Springfield Armory SAR-48 as it appeared in the 1989 *Guns & Ammo Annual* catalog.



more powerful rifles would allow them to outrange enemy infantry.

I'll offer a personal note here on using the various NATO battle rifles. Though they offer select fire, my experience has been that these battle rifles are difficult to control on full auto fire, though with practice short bursts are marginally controllable. Maybe some of you reading this are more skilled than I and can prove me wrong. However, I will state that I can control an FAL firing short bursts better than any of the other 7.62x51mm Battle Rifles. With the FAL's cyclic rate of 650–700 rounds per minute, for me “control” is a relative description.

The FAL uses a short-stroke, gas-piston system above the barrel, combined with a tilting breechblock. A gas regulator located above the front sight base allows gas flow to be adjusted for a dirty rifle or other adverse conditions or for gas to be shutoff to fire rifle grenades. I have seen rifle grenades fired from the FAL, but I have never done so. Standard fixed stock FALs have the recoil spring in the stock, while folding stock Para models have it in the receiver cover. Locating the recoil spring in the receiver cover necessitates other changes in the receiver cover, recoil spring, and bolt carrier, as well as the modified lower receiver to take the folding stock. The FAL may be “broken open” by pushing a lever on the upper receiver and tilting the upper downwards as with a double barreled shotgun or an M16. The bolt and carrier may then be slid out of the

The FN FAL under the designation T48 was the primary contender against what would become the M14. Though it performed well political issues including the US Army desire to adopt a US design precluded its adoption. (NARA)



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A US soldier firing the T-48 offhand during trials. (NARA)

upper receiver. The bolt may be easily removed from the carrier; then, pressing a button and turning a plug allows the gas piston to be removed. Overall, it's a relatively easy rifle to strip.

I have had a preference for the FAL Para model since I first shot one, as it makes the rifle balance better for firing and also makes it quicker to handle due to the shorter barrel. Some Para models seem to have been made with the carry handle as on the fixed stock models and some without. My semi-auto Para model, which I have had for many years, does not have the carry handle. Early fixed stock FALs, and some made on license in India and elsewhere, had wooden stocks and forearms, but later ones had polymer stocks. I should note that the folding stock Para model though handier is slightly heavier than the version with the fixed polymer stock. When one first encounters the FAL Para stock it seems hard to open or close, but the trick is to place the thumb on the stock release button below the point where the stock locks open or closed, then squeeze with the palm. This allows the stock to be easily released. Another feature of the Para model, which I mostly like, is the folding cocking handle. Once a round has been chambered and the cocking handle released it folds against the receiver keeping it out of the way. That's the positive. However, if it's necessary to quickly pull the bolt to the rear or to kick open the bolt using

Argentine airborne troops armed with the FN FAL Para. (Ejército Argentino)



A Canadian soldier lining up a shot with an FAL with bipod affixed. Canada was the first country in the world to adopt the FAL in 1954 and would later standardize on the C1A1, a Canadian version of the British L1A1. (Canadian Army)



At top an Israeli HB FN-LAR with Trilux scope and at bottom a Brazilian IMBEL R1A1. (Courtesy of Rock Island Auction Service)



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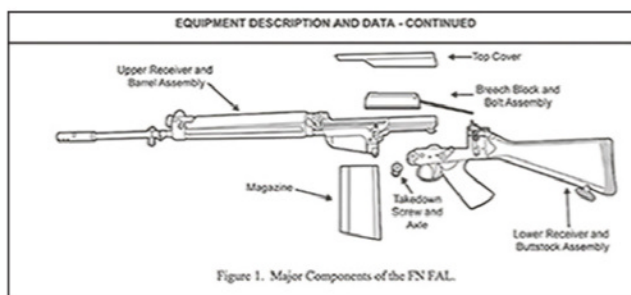


◀ Thompson shooting his pre-ban FN FAL Para model offhand. He finds the FAL easier to shoot offhand than other “battle rifles.”

► Note the adjustment plug for the FAL’s gas system below the front sight. This allows for adjustment when the rifle is dirty or in cold climates.



◀ View of the FAL’s magazine release lever, safety, lever to allow the upper to be rotated away from the lower, and pistol grip. Also visible are the rear sling swivel and the release button to fold or unfold the stock.



Page from the USMC FN FAL manual showing the rifle’s major components. (USMC)



the boot, then the standard cocking handle is preferable.

In addition to the Belgian semi-auto FALs that have been imported, there have also been the models assembled from imported parts and US receivers. As, even when I was using a select fire FAL, I have normally left the selector on semi-auto, the fact most FALs available in the USA, other than some Class III versions, are semis has not bothered me in the slightest. The UK and other Commonwealth countries seemed to agree, as the L1A1 version of the FAL adopted by them was a semi-auto. When I was in the UK after the

Falklands War, some friends in the Royal Marine Commandos told me that British troops had picked up Argentine select-fire FALs and had negligent discharges/rifle run-aways as they were not familiar with controlling full auto rifles.

I find some pros and some cons to the FAL’s controls and sights. I already mentioned that I like the folding cocking handle on the Para model because it is less likely to catch on a tactical vest or other equipment. On the other hand, the exposed-knob cocking handle on the fixed stock FAL, allows faster access to release the bolt after a reload or to remove a stuck case. Speaking of releasing the bolt, the release lever on the left side of the magazine well is fairly easy to reach with the support hand when shooting right-handed but is a bit small and hard to find without looking. The magazine release is centered at the rear of the magazine



Close-up of the locking mechanism of the FAL Para's stock.



To fold or unfold the FAL Para model's stock, it is necessary to depress the release button with the thumb while squeezing down on the stock with the palm.



The FAL Para model with the cocking handle in the folded position. This keeps the cocking handle out of the way, but is also slower if it is necessary to quickly open the bolt.

well and may be operated with the thumb while grasping the magazine. It is relatively small, which makes it a little harder to operate quickly without practice, but which also makes it less likely to be pushed inadvertently, thus dumping a loaded magazine.

I like the peep rear sight of the FAL as I normally shoot better with it than with a notch rear sight. I find the FAL safety/selector's location above the pistol grip easy to operate with my thumb while grasping the pistol grip. A scope mount was available for the FAL that fitted on a replacement dust cover for the rifle. Later versions of this scope mount incorporated a Picatinny rail or a NATO STANAG mount.

Though the FAL seems long compared to assault rifles I use, such as the SIG550 or AR-15, it is well balanced, allowing it to be fired comfortably on rapid semi-auto fire. Recoil is barely noticeable on a fixed stock FAL fired in semi-auto. My Para model is not markedly uncomfortable to shoot, as the butt of the folding stock is more comfortable than folding stocks on some other battle rifles, most notably the G3/HK91 or Beretta



A female Indian soldier armed with an INSAS rifle; note the polymer magazine which allows checking the magazine for cartridges remaining. (Indian Army)



Close-up of a 20-round FAL magazine and the release lever located behind it.



The FAL Para's cocking handle in the extended position; when released it will automatically re-fold against the receiver.

BM59. Still, if I fire a magazine quickly on semi-auto with my Para I feel it.

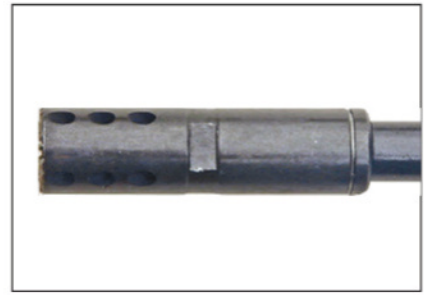
Although I've fired FALs, especially L1A1s, made in other countries besides Belgium and also some of the ones

THE FN FAL



◀ Close-up of the standard knob-type FAL cocking handle.

► FN FAL Para model flash suppressor/compensator.



The standard FAL pistol grip with storage space for cleaning supplies or spare parts.



Front sight of the FAL Para model.



Rear peep sight of the FAL Para model.



The much sought after early G-model import FAL.
(Courtesy of Rock Island Auction Service)



100-yard group with PMC ELDORADO ammunition at 100 yards.



100-yard group with Federal 168-grain Sierra Match-King.

FN FAL PARA MODEL SHOOTING RESULTS

(3-Round Group, 100-Yards from Rest)

Federal 168-grain Sierra Match King BTHP	2 1/8 inches
El Dorado 150-grain XTP	1 5/8 inches
Winchester USA 147-grain FMJ	2 1/8 inches
Black Hills 168-grain Match	2 3/8 inches

(4-Round Group Off Hand, 50-yards)

Black Hills 168-grain Match	7/8 inches
-----------------------------	------------

assembled in the USA from parts kits, for this article I'm mostly concentrating on the original Belgian semi-auto rifles imported into the USA. I purchased the two I own many years ago and they have always performed to my expectations. I will say that of the guns assembled from parts kits, most that I've fired have functioned reliably—most! I will also note that a local gunsmith who specializes in FALs always seems to have at hand plenty of the kit rifles that need tweaking. I do have quite a bit of experience with one DS Arms rifle that was built to my order. DS Arms is the sole manufacturer of US-made FAL-type rifles (DSArms.com).

When I took my FAL 50:62 Para model to the range for a shooter refresher, 100-yard groups hovered

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THE FN FAL



◀ 50-yard offhand group from FN FAL Para using Black Hills 168-grain Match ammo.

▶ 100-yard group fired with FAL Para model using Winchester 147-grain military overrun ammo.

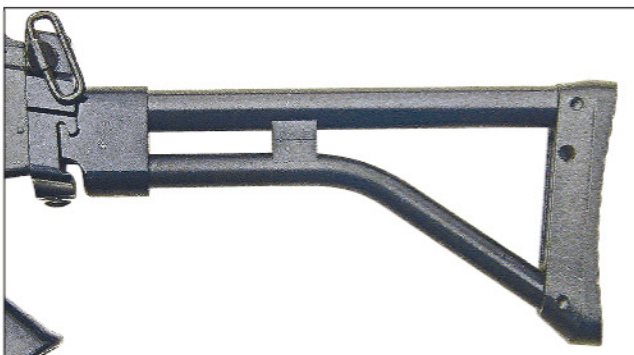


Thompson firing the FAL Para offhand at plates in double and triple taps; note recoil and muzzle flip are mild.

around two inches. I was happiest with four rounds I fired off hand at 50 yards, which grouped into 7/8 in. reinforcing my belief that the FAL is easier for me to shoot offhand than other battle rifles.

I like the way my FALs shoot; I like the way they look; and I like their historical link to the Cold War when they

would have been deployed on the front lines against Warsaw Pact forces moving against the European democracies. I'm glad the Cold War never turned hot, but I am also appreciative of the role the FN FAL played in lowering the temperature! **FN**



Close-up of the FAL's Para's folding stock when extended. Thompson has found it better than most folding skeleton stocks.

FN FAL SPECIFICATIONS

Action:	Short-Stroke Gas Piston, Tilting Breechblock
Caliber:	7.62x51mm NATO
Overall Length:	FAL 50:00 Fixed Stock – 43 in., FAL 50:62 Para: Stock Extended – 40.2 in., Stock Folded – 30.3 in.
Barrel Length:	50:00 – 21 in., 50:62 – 18 in.
Weight:	50:00 – 9.4 lbs., 50:62 – 9.5 lbs.
Cartridge Capacity:	20- or 30-round box magazines
Sights:	Rear: Ramped Aperture, Front: Post
Cyclic Rate:	650–700 RPM



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When the GX4 appeared back in 2021, it was pretty clear that the new frontier of carry pistols was compact double-stack 9mm pistols that were made into the handiest package possible. And the Taurus GX4 was right there in the mix. Well, they have not ceded any advantage to their competitors, and have kept the GX4 right in the thick of the fray, where the new Carry model of the GX4 line is the latest.

First off, the GX4 Carry (like its predecessor, the GX4) is a flat, compact, handy 9mm pistol that feels good in the hand and uses a striker firing system. The sights are fixed, but user-serviceable, so if you want more than the blade-and-notch it ships with, the full panoply of after-market sights is yours for the choosing. The white-dot front sight is held in place, centered in the slide, but the plain black steel rear is drift-adjustable. So, getting it zeroed to your own hands/eyes/grip is not a problem. The slide has cocking serrations fore and aft, and the GX4 Carry is of course T.O.R.O. built, ready for the red dot of your choice. The

optics mounting cover plate, which you can remove with just two bolts, uncovers a platform ready for a Holosun K-series or other footprint red-dot sight, no adapter plate needed. Of course, if your favorite optic is something else, then you can make it work, because the GX4 Carry works with six other brands of optics. (Riton, Sightmark, Shield, SIG, Hex, Trijicon, with one, the Trijicon, needing an adapter plate, but Taurus has plenty of those for your use, just ask.) Now, if you are firmly set in the 20th century, and don't want any of these new-fangled 21st century things, you can pass up the T.O.R.O. model, and get one not-so-machined, and save yourself \$35 off the GX4 Carry TORO price. You'll regret it, trust me.

The slide is made out of alloy steel, which means not stainless, but it is given a nitride finish to darken it, make the surface harder, and to resist corrosion. Inside the slide, the barrel is stainless steel and treated to a DLC finish to match the black of the slide. There is, of course, a loaded chamber indicator.

TAURUS GX4 CARRY

Maximal Minimalist 9mm EDC Pistol

By Patrick Sweeney

Let's all sing along: Shootin' in the rain just shootin' in the rain... some loads flash more than others, and if you find this a problem you have to do your own testing to see what you can live with.

The grip, which most of us will call the frame, is made of a durable polymer, and is well-covered with a non-slip texture that keeps it secure in your hand. The part Taurus calls the frame is a stainless steel chassis inside the grip, and the frame holds the working parts of the pistol with the exception of the magazine release. As the firearm, it bears the serial number, visible through a slot on the rear of the grip. The magazine release is reversible, so lefties have that option, should they wish to swap the button over. The chassis is not meant to be removed from the grip. It isn't permanently installed, but Taurus is not offering replacement grips for the GX4, Carry or otherwise. There is no good reason to go unhooking everything and removing the chassis, so don't. The grip also has textured index pads on either side, locations for your trigger finger to rest when it is out of the trigger guard, and there is a slide stop, or release lever, on the left side of the frame. It is rather small, and protected by being inset in the frame, but the current method of dropping the slide on a reload is to "slingshot"

the slide back with your off hand, and let it run forward of its own, propelled by the spring.

The grip itself is ergonomically shaped, and the join of the trigger guard (which is large enough for a gloved hand) and the frontstrap is lifted, to let your hand get higher. On the back, the GX4 Carry ships with a pair of extra replaceable backstraps, to let you make the grip fit if the one that it comes installed with turns out to not be the best fit for your hand. Set into the frame is the takedown pin, which you need a correctly fitting screwdriver to use. Rotating the pin enables you to take the slide assembly off of the frame, and once the barrel and recoil spring assembly are out of the slide, you have done all you need to do, to effectively clean the gunk of practice and training out of your GX4 Carry.

The trigger is flat, with a safety blade in the center, and a flat trigger is one of those modern details that have been re-discovered of late. Striker-fired, so the GX4 Carry trigger pull is light and clean enough to be manageable,

TAURUS GX4 CARRY



The Taurus GX4 Carry, the latest compact 9mm carry pistol to be had.



The GX4 Carry is an evolution of the GX4, which was already full of excellent details.



The GX4 Carry adds (among other things) an accessory rail for your light or laser.



A white-dot front sight blade, fixed to the slide.



The rear sight, drift-adjustable, is a plain black serrated steel blade.

but not competition-light, which might be a hindrance in a defensive situation.

The GX4 Carry barrel is a smidge shorter than three-and-three-quarter inches long, the same length as the GX4XL, and slide to match. Which means you'll lose a little bit of steam from your 9mm ammo, but that is the price of having such a compact pistol. As the slide and barrel are for a lot of people the hardest aspect of a pistol to carry concealed (comfort and detection-wise) being this short is a good thing.

So, with all this goodness already present in the GX4, what makes the GX4 Carry a new and different pistol?

First of all, there is the accessory rail on the grip. Previous models of the GX4 did not have an accessory rail, and those who carry and want to manage darkness if they found themselves in it, were, shall we say, left to older tactical lighting methodologies. With the GX4 Carry now featuring a rail, you have options, the three slots on it allow fitting a wide array of light and laser choices onto the grip, and as with the iron sights, the world is your oyster.

You will, of course, have to find a new holster for your GX4 Carry, because the extra volume of the rail will preclude fitting it into a holster you may already have for your GX4. Holster makers know this, and it will be soon that



On the right side is the takedown bolt and its slot, and you can see the trigger safety in the middle of the trigger blade.



The barrel has an integral feed ramp, and locks into the ejection port of the slide.

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TAURUS GX4 CARRY



On the left side you see the slide stop lever, and the reversible magazine catch button.

The bottom of the grip, and the magazine baseplates, are contoured so you can grip and rip if you need to.



On top of the slide, you can see the loaded chamber indicator, the notch in the barrel hood, and the removable optics plate.



Along with the owner's manual and lock, the GX4 Carry comes with two magazines and two extra backstraps, to adjust the grip to your hand.

many will be offering a G4X Carry option on their holster line.

The other big thing for the GX4 Carry is the magazine. Taurus made the GX4 Carry just a bit more difficult to carry concealed, by adding a whopping two-thirds of an inch to its overall height compared to the GX4XL. However, what you gain for this is a fifteen-round magazine. You have two more rounds onboard than you'd have in a GX4XL, and four more than the original, standard GX4. The GX4 Carry comes with two of these magazines, and Taurus has more for sale on the web site in a



Takedown is simple: use a slotted screwdriver to turn the takedown bolt a quarter-turn, and dry-fire the GX4 Carry.



Once the slide is off, the rest is the same as you'd expect. This is as far as you need to go to clean your GX4 Carry.





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The chassis is the firearm, but it is not a user-serviceable item, and is not meant to be removed from the grip.



The serial number is at the rear of the chassis, visible though a slot in the grip.



To install an optic, first unscrew the bolts holding on the cover plate, remove the plate and...



...then bolt on your optic (except for the Trijicon, which needs an adapter plate).

two-pack, or at your local gun shop. Those in non-Free States will have to settle for ten-round magazines, and even give up the option of the 17-round extended GX4 Carry magazines. Such is life. And yes, they will work in a GX4 non-Carry as well, they are longer but not otherwise different. Well, they are different, but not in a way that precludes use in a GX4.

The bottom of the GX4 Carry grip, and the baseplate of the magazines for it, are cut in such a way that you can get a good grip on the magazine. That means in the case of some horrible malfunction, where the magazine doesn't fall out of its own weight when desired, you can "grip and rip," that is, press the magazine button and yank the magazine out with your other hand. Given the reliability this GX4 Carry demonstrated, that will be a rare instance

indeed, and most likely caused wither by bad ammo or poor maintenance habits.

Loading the magazine is easy, and since it is an EDC pistol, I tested it mostly with defensive-oriented ammunition. Still, we all practice with less-horsepower ammo (most of us, anyway) because of the cost of the best defensive loads, so I tried a softy-load 9mm loading, to make sure it worked with "wimpy" ammo. It did, no problem there. I pawed through the optics locker and found the only red dot not already in use, a Shield RMSx, which is a competition-oriented red-dot optic. "*Competition?*" Yes, the RMSx has a larger viewing area, which for a daily-carry pistol might be a bit bulky, but then again might not be. And since competition shooters like to be noticeable, you can get an RMSx in one of a variety of colors, some of them pretty



With a low-enough optic, like this Shield, you can still use your iron sights if the battery dies.

Given the light weight of the GX4 Carry, recoil is expected. But the ergonomic grip shape helps keep that under control, and it was never a problem.





Advertisement for Hippmann Ordnance featuring various Gatling guns. The central focus is a large, black, belt-fed .22LR Gatling gun mounted on a tripod. Above it, two smaller Gatling guns are shown: one on a tripod and one on a wheeled carriage. To the right, another Gatling gun is shown on a tripod. The Hippmann Ordnance logo, featuring a stylized 'H' with a target symbol, is positioned above the central gun. Below the central gun, a belt of ammunition and several loose rounds are displayed. The background is dark and textured.

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Advertisement for Del-Ton Incorporated featuring a man in a cap and sunglasses aiming a rifle. The rifle is a black, modern-style rifle with a scope. The man is wearing a brown shirt and a black cap. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with a red light visible. The Del-Ton Incorporated logo, featuring the name in a large, bold, distressed font, is positioned in the upper right. Below the logo, the text 'AMERICAN MADE. AFFORDABLE. QUALITY.' is written in a large, bold, yellow font. At the bottom, the website 'DEL-TON.COM' and social media icons for Facebook and Instagram are displayed.

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TAURUS GX4 CARRY



The Taurus GX4 Carry, with a red dot on board, shot like a house afire.



Red dot optics like this Shield make accurate shooting a lot easier.



Hornady makes really accurate ammo, and the GX4 Carry really likes Critical Defense.



Loaded with Hornady XTP bullets, the Wilson Combat ammunition really delivered.

TAURUS GX4 CARRY CHRONOGRAPH AND ACCURACY DATA					
Ammunition	Bullet Weight (gr.)	Velocity (fps)	ES	SD	Accuracy (in.) (Avg./Best)
Hornady Critical Defense	115	1,030	20	8.5	1.9 / 1.7
Wilson Combat XTP	124	1,080	19	8.0	1.9 / 1.6
Black Hills JHP	124	1,123	27	16.2	2 / 1.8
Federal Hydra-Shok Deep	135	969	31	12.7	2.1 / 1.8
SIG FMJ	147	892	20	8.1	2.2 / 2
Blue Bullet, 4.3 gr VV-330	115	1,083	42	19.9	2.3 / 2

Accuracy results were to be averages of three, five-shot groups at 25 yards off a Champion shooting rest. Velocities are averages of 10 shots measured on a Labrador chronograph set to read 15 feet from the muzzle.

jarring. Mine is black, thank goodness. And worked like a champ in testing. Now, a pistol this compact and light, with defensive loads is going to have some recoil. And had I been testing it with just the iron sights I would not have been at all surprised if the groups were a tad large, with occasional fliers. Well, put a red dot on top, and all that changes. The GX4 Carry did not quite shoot like it was a Bullseye gun, but it definitely shot above its weight class. And for as light as it was, I found the recoil, while a tad sharp, not at all a problem to control.

Now, were I using the GX4 Carry for daily carry I'd look at going with something a bit smaller than the RMSx, which is made for competition. And given the vast array of top-notch defensive ammunition, I would take a cross-section of the available good hollow points and find which of them my one GX4 Carry shot the most accurately. The magazine capacity is everything you'd want in an EDC

pistol, and having the spare right from the get-go is good. With the provided magazines, you start the day with 31 rounds of 9mm on your person, and if for some reason a lone spare mag wasn't enough, Taurus has plenty more on hand. Another magazine gets you up to 46 rounds, which risks a personal-sinking hazard on soft ground. **FN**

SPECIFICATIONS TAURUS GX4 CARRY	
Type:	Striker-fired semi-automatic
Caliber:	9mm
Capacity:	15+1 rounds
Barrel:	3.7 in.
Overall Length:	6.6 in.
Weight:	21.5 oz.
Finish:	Blued steel
Grips:	N/A
Sights:	Fixed front & rear
Trigger:	5 lbs., 2 oz.
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Wilson Combat	WilsonCombat.com/accessories/ammunition.html, (800) 955-4856
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FRANCHI’S MOMENTUM ALL-TERRAIN ELITE

A Scout by Any Other Name

By James Tarr

The term “scout rifle” can be very polarizing in some crowds, because some people think the idea of using a bolt action rifle for self-defense is outdated. Legendary gunwriter, firearms trainer, and WWII Marine Corps veteran Jeff Cooper is credited with the creation of the term, but he didn’t invent the concept.

In short, a “Scout” is a general purpose rifle, one that is short, light, and handy, and as Cooper said, a rifle “... that will do a great many things equally well....” Cooper envisioned a rifle that could be used for hunting, plinking, and even self-defense if necessary. As he wrote in *The Art of the Rifle*, “The general-purpose rifle will do equally well for all but specialized hunting, as well as for fighting;



Firearms News Editor-in-Chief Vince DeNiro shooting the Franchi out past 200 yards at the Cameo Shooting Complex in Colorado during the Outdoor Sportsman Group’s annual Editorial Roundup. It is being fed by the shorter five-round magazine.



The Momentum All-Terrain Elite comes complete as you see here, with a TrueTimber Strata camo stock, extended rail, and flip-up sights.

thus, it must be powerful enough to kill any living target of reasonable size.” Cooper thought the rifle should be no more than a meter long and no more than three kilograms unloaded—FYI that length is easy, but very few scout rifle manufacturers have been able to make that weight.

I’m bringing all this up because Momentum All-Terrain Elite (MATE?) is an awkward mouthful, and Franchi could just have easily called it the Franchi Scout Rifle and most people would have had a far better idea of what kind of rifle it was, even before they saw it. But, as they say, a picture is worth a thousand words.

The Momentum All-Terrain Elite is a purpose-built general use rifle—an EDC rifle, if you will, as Franchi says, “...optimized for carry in a truck or ATV as your constant companion.” It is available in .223 Remington or .308 Winchester, and I obtained a sample of the latter for testing as I feel the .308 Win is a far better choice for a rifle that will mostly be used for hunting. It sports an 18-inch barrel tipped with a very effective muzzle brake. The barrel is threaded to 5/8x24, making suppressor mounting easy. The barrel and receiver have a bronze Cerakote finish. Franchi does supply a thread protector (Cerakoted bronze) if you prefer a bare muzzle.

The injection-molded polymer stock has a TrueTimber Strata camo pattern. It is fed by detachable AICS-pattern magazines, and one 10-round magazine was provided with the rifle. I think this rifle looks great, with kind of a “tactical hunter” aesthetic. Five-round magazines protrude just a tiny bit from the polymer magazine well and don’t look quite as “tactical,” if that’s not your thing.

The rifle sports an extended MIL STD 1913 “Picatinny” optic rail that extends 3.5 inches over the barrel (a total 8.5 inches in length). While it’s a close fit, it doesn’t touch the barrel. This longer rail allows you to mount the optic of your choice, everything from red dots to extended eye relief scout scopes to traditional riflescopes. This rifle comes with a one-MOA guarantee, and as you’ll see from the accuracy table it is more than capable of that.

If you’re a little vague on Franchi, they are a 150-year-old Italian firearms company known more for their shotguns than rifles, but they make both. In 1994, they were purchased by Beretta, the world’s oldest firearms manufacturer. If your Italian is a little rusty, just a reminder that Franchi is correctly pronounced “fronky.”



The rail gives you 8.5 inches of usable length. The rifle is fed by single-column AICS-pattern magazines, and a 10-rounder is provided with the gun.

The muzzle brake is very effective. The muzzle is threaded 5/8x24 if you want to swap out the brake for a suppressor.



The one-piece fluted bolt has a bright silver finish Tarr doesn’t think works with the rest of the gun, and that minor complaint is all he’s got.



The Momentum All-Terrain Elite uses Franchi’s standard barreled action which provides a quick 60-degree bolt throw. The receiver mates with the aluminum block in the stock with improved contact when compared to a Remington 700, and over a third more thread engagement between the front action screw and the receiver, increasing strength and rigidity.

The polymer stock is injection molded, smooth and almost slick where it is not textured with subdued raised checkering. Personally, I love the look of the TrueTimber Strata camouflage, and the black accents work. The only thing that didn’t work for me (style-wise) was the shiny silver of the three-lug bolt body shining bright, but that’s a small complaint.

The barrel free floats inside the forend. The forend of the stock is flat, about two inches wide on the bottom,

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The magazine release is a paddle at the front of the trigger guard that can be used from either side. Magpul AICS-pattern magazines are reliable and inexpensive.



The bolt of the Franchi can be fully worked when the rifle is on safe.

which makes precision shooting off a backpack/fence rail/whatever a little easier than if it was rounded. At the front of the forend, you'll see aluminum inserts on either side and the bottom, with two M-LOK slots and a QD socket for all your bipod and sling-mounting needs. There are QD sockets on either side and the bottom of the buttstock. Check out the bottom of the stock—it has a couple small contours that will help if you've got your support hand (or a sandbag) tucked under it. The stock uses Franchi's TSA recoil pad, which is soft rubber and has rounded edges to keep you from hooking it on your clothing.

The black pistol grip and the comb are hard polymer, not rubber. As it comes from the factory, the low comb

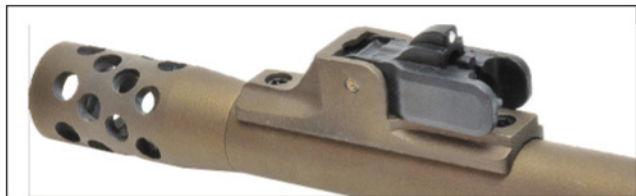
put my cheek at the right height to use the emergency (not flipped-up) sights, barely above the rail (more on them in a second). Chances are, if you're mounting an optic (and almost everyone will be) you'll want to install the taller comb on the stock. Supplied with the rifle is a higher comb that is much more suitable when using a scope, it raises your head about half an inch. Replacing the comb is easy, and you'll just need your fingers, no tools—they pop in and out and are held in place by spring tension. With the taller comb you'll need to remove it to remove your bolt.

This rifle is 40-inches long, just a tad over Cooper's recommended one-meter length for a scout rifle, although you can pull off the muzzle brake if that last inch is bothering you. Franchi has the weight listed as 7.5 ounces, but in truth, with an empty magazine in place, this rifle weighs 7 lbs. 5 ounces. The longer rail, the aluminum M-LOK inserts in the stock, and the fact that this rifle doesn't have a whip-thin ultralight barrel all add ounces to the weight, but it is still short and handy and balances in front of the magazine well.

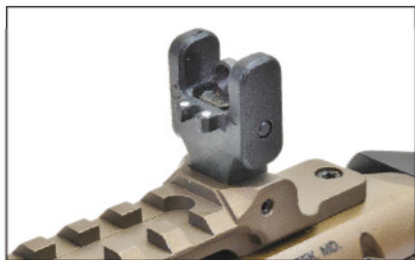
The Momentum All-Terrain Elite uses Franchi's Relia Trigger, a single stage trigger that broke at 3.75 pounds on my sample, with no take-up and a crisp break. It is adjustable from two to four pounds. The trigger guard is polymer. Between the magazine well and the trigger guard you'll see a paddle-style magazine release. It can be used from either side of the rifle. Push it forward with the tip of your trigger finger, or use the thumb of your support hand. Empty magazines drop free. The magazines wiggle a bit inside the well, which I didn't much care for, but this did not affect reliability at all.

You'll see a two-position safety in the expected place, forward for fire, back for safe (marked with red and white dots respectively). You can work the bolt fully when the rifle is on Safe, but pulling the trigger does nothing.

Let's talk about the included sights on this rifle. Backup sights separate hunting and competition guns from guns suited for defensive use, and I'm glad to see them on a rifle that is meant to handle everything. You actually get two sets of sights—when laid flat, these sights provide an emergency pistol-style notch/post three-dot setup, so you don't



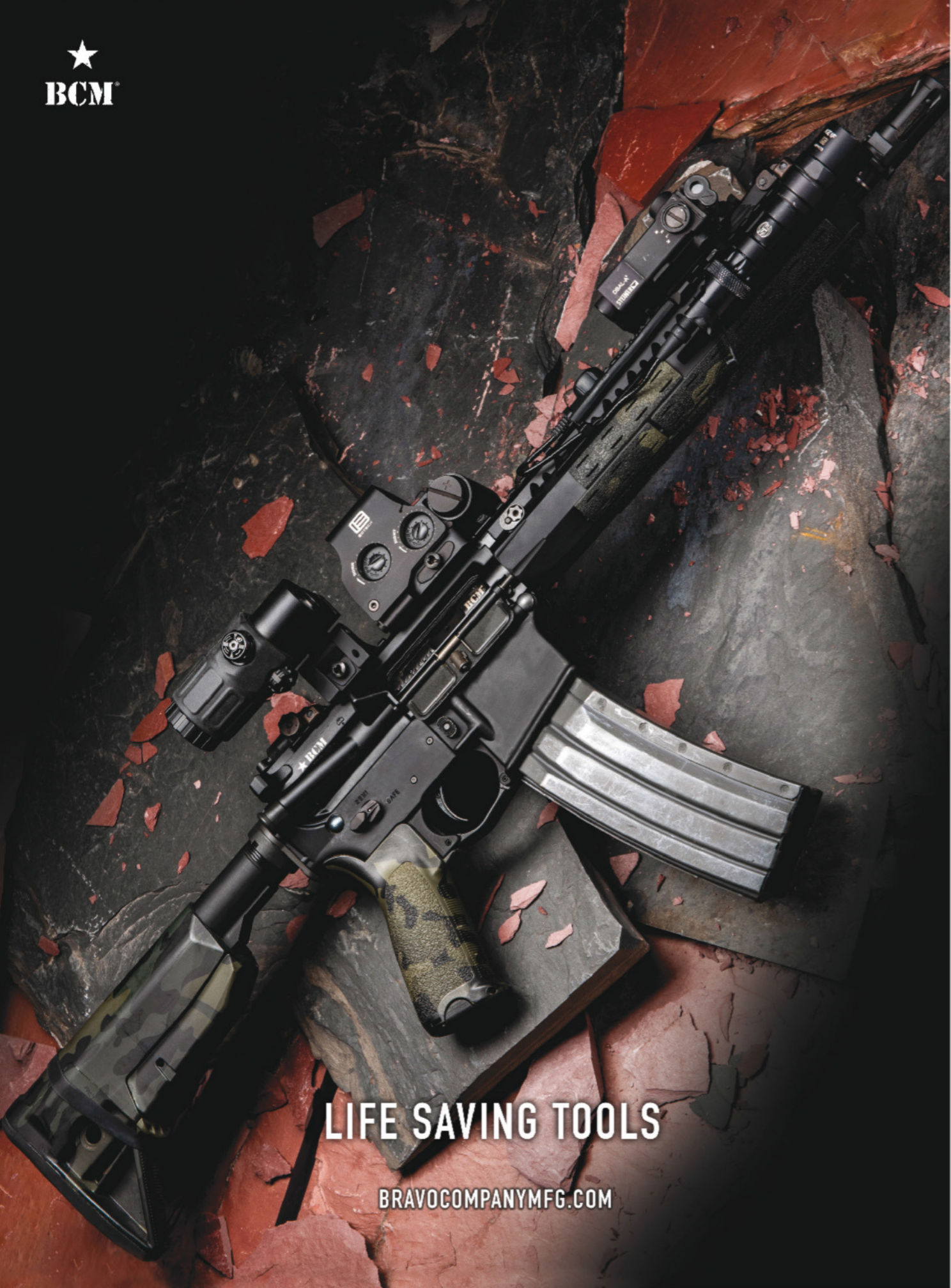
You basically are given two sets of sights, the fully adjustable ones usable once you flip them up, and the three-dot pistol-style emergency ones, as seen here on the front sight.



The rear sight deployed. It has an aperture adjustable for windage. You can also see the two-dot notch on the top that can be used with the sight folded down.



The rear sight sits about a third of an inch taller than the rail, so mounting a scope in low rings might cause clearance issues. This Burris RT-6 luckily has the right eye relief for this position to work.



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The stock has an interchangeable comb, and a low and high are provided with the rifle. They pop on and off. The tall one (installed) lifts your head about half an inch.



The Franchi is meant as a general use rifle, and is offered in .223 Rem and .308 Winchester, as seen here.

even have to flip them up to use them. Depending on how you've got your scope and rings set up, you theoretically might be able to use them beneath your scope.

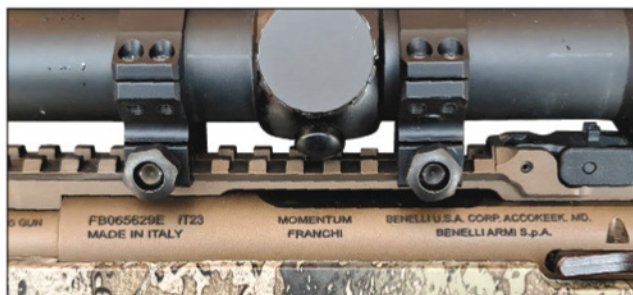
The flip-up sights have detents to help keep them up or down, but they don't lock in place. Flipped up, your sightline is about 0.85 in. above the top of the rail. The rear sight has a single steel aperture that is adjustable for windage. The front sight looks like a standard AR-15 post front sight protected by wings. The polymer bodies of the sights look/feel a little inexpensive to me, but they work.

The people that roll their eyes at the scout rifle concept seem to forget Jeff Cooper was more than willing to adapt. He originally specced a stripper clip guide for quicker re-loading, but I'm sure would have been perfectly satisfied with the detachable box magazines found in this rifle. He specced extended eye relief scopes for his scouts simply because they were the only kind of scope on the market that you could use at speed with two eyes open. Low-power variable optics (LPVOs) weren't really a thing back in the day, but I know Cooper would have seen their utility on rifles like this.

A 1-6x LPVO seemed to me like a good choice for this rifle—a bit smaller and lighter than 1-8x scopes, while



While the magazine wiggled in the well, Tarr experienced no problems with reliability. You see the magazine positions the cartridge right in line with the chamber.



While the writing is a bit subdued on the Midnight Bronze Cerakoted receiver, there's a lot of it, stretching across the entire receiver and onto the barrel.



On either side of the forend and the bottom you'll find an aluminum insert with M-LOK slots and a QD socket for mounting a sling or bipod.

having enough magnification for a general use rifle. I had a Burris RT-6 1-6x on hand and mounted it to the Franchi. Low rings might seem the way to go, but depending on how low your low rings are, and how fat the eyepiece of your scope, you might have issues clearing the rear sight, which even when folded down sticks up above the rail about a third of an inch. I would have preferred to mount the RT-6 about half an inch forward of where you see it, but the rear sight simply didn't allow it unless I used taller rings. FYI: I used SIG Alpha1 low aluminum rings, putting the scope midline 0.94 in. above the rail, which was a perfect height for me when using the raised comb.

I first shot one of these rifles at our company's 2023 Editorial Roundtable, held at the Cameo Shooting and Education Complex in Colorado. There, you're shooting at steel targets arrayed up a rocky mountainside, stretching out past 600 yards. I didn't take the Franchi out that far,

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Tarr engaging steel targets out past 200 yards with the Franchi. It is an accurate gun with a good trigger, and not handicapped by the short barrel.

but hitting out past 200 yards simply resting my elbows on the shooting bench was easy. That rifle was also a .308, mounting the 1-6x Burris. During subsequent testing my adult son and his friends had fun hammering cardboard silhouettes offhand, seeing how fast they could work the bolt. This rifle is built to run.

With the muzzle brake in place recoil is almost mild, the rifle does not beat you up. During my family range trip, we were also shooting bird shot through a 12-gauge Mossberg 500, and the Franchi had significantly less recoil. It is loud, though, and that short, threaded barrel seems a good candidate for a suppressor. No supersonic .308 loads are ear safe through any suppressor, so something short and light—like the Banish Backcountry from Silencer Central—seems like the best choice to me.

While the forend is setup for easy installation of a bipod, a good shooting sling—and more importantly knowing how to use it properly—would be a better choice than a bipod. A quality leather sling would match the aesthetics of this rifle more than a nylon one in my opinion, but you do you.

FRANCHI MOMENTUM ALL-TERRAIN ELITE RIFLE

Load	Bullet Weight (gr.)	Velocity (fps)	SD	Avg Group (in.)
Hornady Am. Whitetail	150	2,641	29	1.05
Hornady Steel Match BTHP	155	2,513	31	1.15
Federal Terminal Ascent	175	2,488	18	.95
Black Hills HPBT Match	175	2,604	24	.87

Accuracy results are the averages of four five-shot groups at 100 yards from a sandbag rest. Velocities are averages of ten shots measured with an Oehler Model 35P 12 feet from the muzzle.

Hornady's now-discontinued Steel Match line (which oddly paired premium bullets with steel cases) would do 1.1-MOA groups all day long out of the short-barreled Franchi, and it was the least accurate ammo Tarr tested.



The .308 Winchester is one of the most popular rifle cartridges in this country. Just about every ammo manufacturer loads .308, and you can find bullet weights from 125- to 180-grains. The .308 Winchester—loaded with the right bullets—is more than capable of taking any game found on this continent. I used a .308 Win loaded with copper solid bullets to down a 600-lb nilgai in Texas with one shot back in the day.

If you wanted to build a modern “scout rifle” as good for defense as hunting, an AR chambered in something beefy (6.5 Grendel, .300 HAMR, .308 Win) and topped by an LPVO would be a much better choice. It's the 21st century—you want a semi-auto for self-defense, if that's your main concern. But if you're looking for a general use hunting rifle that—in a pinch—could be used defensively, this Franchi seems an excellent choice—accurate and damn good looking, distinctive and classy, with a European pedigree, and competitively priced. **FN**

FRANCHI MOMENTUM ALL-TERRAIN ELITE RIFLE SPECIFICATIONS

Type:	Bolt action centerfire
Caliber:	.308 Winchester (.223 Rem available)
Capacity:	10 (accepts AICS-pattern magazines)
Barrel Length:	18 in., threaded 5/8"x24
Muzzle Device:	Muzzle brake
Overall Length:	40 in.
Weight (With Empty Magazine):	7 pounds 5 ounces
Twist Rate:	1/11
Stock:	Synthetic with True Timber Strata pattern
Finish:	Midnight Bronze Cerakote on barrel/receiver
Sights:	Flip up
Trigger:	Relia Trigger adj. 2–4 lbs. (3.75 pounds as tested)
Accessories:	1 10-round magazine, two combs
MSRP:	\$1,449
Contact:	FranchiUSA.com

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Renown photographer Franco Palamano firing the 93R at the Beretta factory shooting range, circa 2007.

BERETTA 93R:

ITALY'S COLD WAR, CONTROLLED-BURST MACHINE PISTOL

By Pierangelo Tendas Photos by Bruno Circi

Introduced in the Late 1970s, the Beretta 93R is a True “Rara Avis” in the Field of Burst-Fire Pistols. While Most Failed to be Actually Useful and Efficient, the Beretta 93R was at the Top of Its Category in Terms of Practicality.

By all accounts, the conversion of the double-barrel Italian “Villar Perosa” pistol-caliber machine-gun of World War I era to a single-barrel, wooden-stocked shoulder-fired weapon marked the birth of the first *moschetto automatico* (lit. “automatic muskeet,” archaic



The 93R was Beretta's contingency response to an increasing demand for what would later become known as a “Personal Defense Weapon”; in the world of select-fire pistols, generally known for being uncontrollable and impractical, the Beretta 93R was quite the opposite.



The Beretta 93R would not be the last select-fire pistol to be launched on the global markets, having been succeeded by others from both the western and eastern “blocks”; the Glock 18, OTs23 Drotik, OTs33 Pernach, Grand Power K102R and K105R would all come after the Beretta 93R, none of them however reaching its levels of practicality and performance.



Left side of the Beretta 93R, slide held open.



The Beretta 93R seen from the right side, with its foregrip deployed.

Italian for “machine-carbine”), a category of firearms that would later become known as “submachine guns.” Around the same time, on the other side of the barricade, the Austrian Österreichische Waffenfabriks-Gesellschaft (ÖWG, better known as Steyr) converted the Steyr-Hahn 1912 pistol to selective fire into the world’s first machine-pistol: the *Repetierpistole M1912/P16* was a Steyr-Hahn with an extended 16-round magazine and a detachable shoulder holster that dubbed as a stock.

However, while the concept of a machine-pistol, machine-carbine, or submachine gun (SMG), flourished as the years went by, becoming a staple of military and police armament during and after World War II, the M1912/P16 went out of production with the end of World War I and the concept of machine-pistol languished, with a few notable exceptions such as the Mauser M.712 *Schnellfeuer*, a few Spanish select-fire pistol designs, and a couple of well-known prototype select-fire conversions of the M1911 from the US. Understandable, select-fire pistols were, and

still are, well-known for their blistering high rate of fire, low controllability and accuracy, low capacity compared to their cyclic rate resulting in the depletion of an entire magazine after just one or two trigger pulls, and lackluster terminal ballistics on medium range due to their short barrel — a far cry from the lower rate-of-fire, higher controllability, better accuracy and performance of SMGs.

Nonetheless, the concept of machine-pistols saw a brief resurgence a few years after the World War II, on both sides of the Iron Curtain. The Soviet Army issued



The Beretta 951-R, with R standing for “Raffica” or burst in Italian, was the predecessor of the Beretta 93R. The limited 10- or 12-round capacity single-stack magazine, and the full-automatic operation in lieu of controlled bursts, made it lackluster in firepower and controllability despite the folding wooden foregrip.

The Beretta 93R portrayed in these pictures is kept in the internal reference collection of the Beretta factory in Gardone Val Trompia, Italy. True to form, it's in mint condition.



The barrel of the Beretta 93R is integrally compensated with six venting ports, three on each side.



The trigger guard of the Beretta 93R is very large, allowing comfortable use even when wearing gloves.



The only manual safety on the Beretta 93R consists of a small stud located behind the fire selector.

the Stechkin APS — a massive select-fire pistol with a wood-and-leather holster that could dub as a shoulder stock, firing the 9x18mm Makarov round and feeding from 18-rounds magazines. These were issued to armored vehicle crews, aircrews, officials, artillerymen, RPG-7 operators, and the like, until short versions of the Kalashnikov rifle such as the AKS-74U came to replace it with overall better results.

On the western side, Steyr briefly proposed the Pi.18 select-fire pistol, whose semi-automatic version would be known as the GB, and Heckler & Koch attempted to market their VP70-M with very little success. Despite its cult status among gun enthusiasts, the Glock 18 didn't enjoy a better acceptance either.

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Italy itself had its run-ins with select-fire pistols immediately after World War II: the early 1950s in the city of Bologna saw Carlo Cuppini and Cesare Lercker manufacture about 150 samples of the now highly collectable

Lercker automatic pistols in .25 ACP, and in the late 1960s, Beretta manufactured a small run of the M951R, essentially a Model 1951 single-action 9mm Luger single-stack pistol converted to select-fire, feeding from an extended (but still way too small for the rate of fire) 10-round or 12-round magazine, and featuring a flimsy wooden folding foregrip under the dust cover to help with "controllability."

Reportedly, the 951R was procured in small quantities by the COMSUBIN (Raiders Group of the Italian Navy, similar to the US Navy SEAL teams) and by the Italian *Polizia di Stato* and *Carabinieri*, who kept it in service for a brief amount of time to suit their operational needs despite the glaring deficiencies of the design. As with most machine-pistols of the time, it would take just one or

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The Beretta 93R fed through 20-round magazines that were essentially extended versions of the standard Beretta 92 magazine. Existing samples will feed from any Beretta 92-series magazine, of any capacity.

The rear (left) and front (right) sights of the Beretta 93R, with white inlays, are reminiscent of those of the Beretta M9 and fixed on to the slide.

two trigger pulls to completely empty the magazine, with very little if any controllability and thus very poor accuracy on target.

Truth be told, back in the day, the market wasn't exactly awash with alternatives for those who sought a holsterable full-automatic firearm for short-range offensive or defensive: the best available examples of that category were all

The Beretta 93R was only manufactured in 9mm Luger, with no alternative chamberings ever offered or even considered.



The slot on the backstrap and the lanyard loop dubbed as the attachment points for the factory-issued shoulder stock.

The stock would be installed by slipping it on to the magazine well and tightening it in place; when not in use, it could be collapsed and carried in a separate pouch.



manufactured in the Eastern Bloc, and were respectively the Czechoslovak Vz.61 *Škorpion* in .32 ACP and the Polish PM.63 RAK in 9x18mm PM, which by itself says a lot. The closest thing available in the west were the Ingram M-10 and M-11 SMGs (aka MAC-10 and MAC-11), whose controllability without its proprietary SIONICS

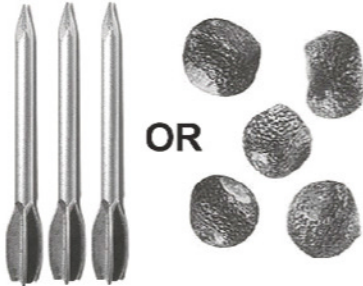
sound suppressor is well known and dreaded by most (and whose market viability was severely hindered by the US Department of State, and by the well-known corporate woes of the various manufacturing companies that succeeded one another). It would take decades for more suitable, compact or subcompact 9mm PDWs such as the Micro-UZI, the MP5K or the Steyr TMP (now B&T MP9) to appear.

Beretta decided to tackle the issue head-on by the end of the 1970s, engineering a completely new machine-pistol from the ground-up. By that time, the interest for a compact, portable select-fire weapon by law enforcement and special task units was witnessing a resurgence, particularly in Europe, where the historical season of international and political terrorism known as the "Years of Lead" was at its peak, with Italy taking the brunt of it.

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The Beretta 93R field-stripped; this is as far as the individual operator would go for cleaning and basic maintenance.

locking system as the Beretta 92 series, almost no component of the Beretta 93R is interchangeable with the M92 and its variants, with the exception of the magazines, some small parts (magazine catch, takedown pin, extractor) and most notably, the 6.1-inch long, compensated barrel.

The Beretta 93R doesn't feature the automatic striker safety found on the M92 variants, and the only manual safety consists in a small notch located on the frame, at thumb reach, right behind the fire selector lever that allows semi-automatic or three-round burst fire.

Aside from its quintessential looks, the sear and trigger system are signature features of the Beretta 93R; the Italian company went for quite a convoluted and complex mechanism, located within the grip, just under the right panel, to limit the operation to three-rounds burst and make the gun more controllable, accurate, and effective on target, even in the hands of operators with limited training.

The three-round burst system is activated by the movement of the slide as the gun cycles and is based on a ratchet mechanism and a

spring-operated rack whose operation is very similar to that of the three-rounds burst ratchet that would be implemented by Colt Mfg. on the M16-A2 assault rifle years later. In the case of the Beretta 93R, the ratchet moves with every shot until it reaches the end of travel, by which point it allows a round to be chambered and the hammer to be cocked but activates a disconnector that forces the shooter to reset the system by releasing the trigger before firing again.

The difference between the Beretta 93R burst limiter and the M16A2 system is that on the Beretta 93, releasing the trigger will always automatically reset the system, so that should the operator manage to squeeze off just two rounds out of a three-rounds burst, after releasing the trigger he (or she) will once again have a three-rounds burst available. The nominal cyclic rate of the Beretta 93R was listed at 700 rounds per minute, but the real rate of fire in three-rounds burst is closer to 1,100 RPM.

The three-rounds burst limitation, combined with the large porting on the barrel and the increased mass of the slide and frame compared to the Beretta M92, makes the Beretta 93R significantly more controllable in burst fire compared to other automatic

It's the Not-So-Little Differences...

Chambered in 9mm Luger, the Beretta 93R can be seen as a beefed-up version of the Beretta 92 series, also known in US service as the M9, and indeed that's not really far from the truth, at least in part. Unlike the M92, the Beretta 93R is a single-action only (SAO) pistol, built on a machined 7075-T6 aluminum alloy frame and a machined steel slide. Despite being based on the same falling block



The Beretta 93R followed the same field-stripping procedure of the Beretta 92 series pistols.



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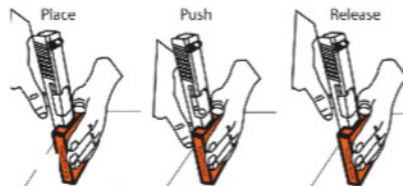
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The barrel is pretty much the only key component of the Beretta 93R, aside from the magazine, to be interchangeable with the M92 series pistols.



When field-stripped, a quick look at the rear portion of the frame gives a glimpse of the complex mechanical layout of the Beretta 93R's burst fire mechanism.

pistols that came before it, and most of those that came later. For additional controllability, Beretta provided the 93R with a metal angled foregrip that pivots in front of the trigger guard and can be folded up against the dust cover, and with a separate, collapsible metal buttstock that can be attached to a slot at the heel of the grip and to the lanyard loop.

The idea was that a law enforcement officer, without immediate access to a long gun, such as motorcycle officers,

dawn of modern Personal Defense Weapons (PDWs) to make a true difference, and the mechanical complexity and overall high cost of the system didn't help it achieve the market success it would have deserved.

Thirty years after having been phased out of production, with less than 5,000 samples ever produced, most of them were procured by the Italian military and Italian law enforcement agencies, some exported to government

customers in Africa and South America, and only a handful ending up in the United States and elsewhere.

In 2006, *Firearms News* Editor-in-Chief, Vincent L. DeNiro was the tactical product manager and pistol marketing manager for Beretta USA (before becoming founder and head of international sales for the US operation). In this year, he



With the right grip panel removed, the clockwork-like organization of the stamped sheet components that allow the Beretta 93R to fire in three rounds burst appears in all its convoluted glory. So many small parts, held in place by likewise diminutive elastic pins, and so many delicate and minuscule wire springs would definitely make the Beretta 93R too complicated for most customers.

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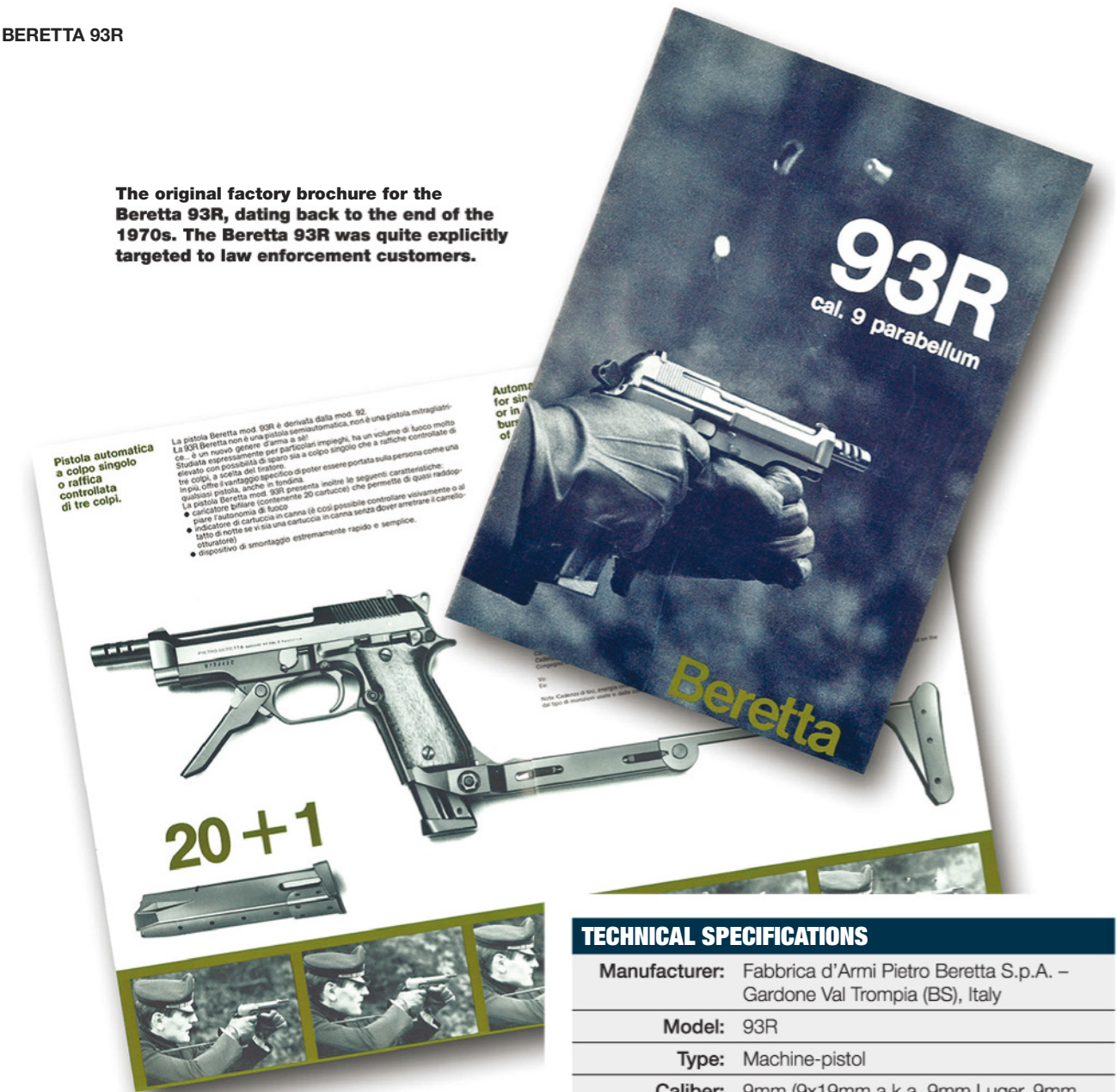


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The original factory brochure for the Beretta 93R, dating back to the end of the 1970s. The Beretta 93R was quite explicitly targeted to law enforcement customers.



proposed semi-auto versions of the 93R; an AOW (any other weapon) which would incorporate the folding grip with no stock, a carbine version with 16-inch barrel, and a short-barreled rifle (SBR) which would basically be the 93R in semi-auto. For a few months into 2007, the concept was entertained by the US division as well as Beretta Italy. However, when the defense division of Beretta Italy could not locate the original tooling, the project was halted.

The Beretta 93R still enjoys cult status among gun enthusiasts worldwide, due to its appearances in countless works of entertainment, from movies to TV shows all the way to videogames. A product of its time, the Beretta 93R would have probably been more successful had it been launched a decade earlier. *C'est la vie.* **FN**

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Manufacturer:	Fabbrica d'Armi Pietro Beretta S.p.A. – Gardone Val Trompia (BS), Italy
Model:	93R
Type:	Machine-pistol
Caliber:	9mm (9x19mm a.k.a. 9mm Luger, 9mm Parabellum, 9mm NATO; 9x21 IMI)
Action:	Semi-automatic or burst fire, Walther-style falling block locking system
Trigger System:	Single-action
Safety:	Manual safety blocking the hammer
Capacity:	15+1 rounds, 20 rounds, or 32 rounds in Beretta 92 compatible magazines
Rate of Fire:	1,100 rounds per minute
Sight Systems:	Fixed front and rear
Barrel Length:	6.14 in.
Total Length:	9.4 in. (w/o add-on shoulder stock)
Weight (empty):	2.58 lbs.
Materials:	Machined steel slide; machined aluminum frame; carbon steel barrel; wooden grip panels
Finishes:	Matte black on all metal surfaces

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[Cont. from page 9]

"California progressive politicians refuse to accept the Supreme Court's mandate from the *Bruen* case and are trying every creative ploy they can imagine to get around it," CRPA President Chuck Michel said in a statement following the decision. "The Court saw through the State's gambit."

Michel added that under the law, carry permit holders "wouldn't be able to drive across town without passing through a prohibited area and breaking the law."

Of course, California's chief anti-gun cheerleader Gov. Gavin

Newsom, who some want to see as a Democrat presidential candidate, wasn't happy with the court ruling — or with the judge's stern words.

"Defying common sense, this ruling outrageously calls California's data-backed gun safety efforts 'repugnant,'" Newsom whined in a released statement. "What is repugnant is this ruling, which green lights the proliferation of guns in our hospitals, libraries and children's playgrounds — spaces, which should be safe for all.

"California will keep fighting to defend our laws and enshrine the Right

to Safety in the Constitution. The lives of our kids depend on it."

We're not exactly sure where Newsom's proclaimed "Right to Safety" is found in the U.S. Constitution. Perhaps it's another proposed constitutional amendment like his recent proposal to bypass the Second Amendment by making a new, gun-ban-friendly 28th Amendment.

Of course, the government will appeal this ruling and the battle to restore Californians' right to keep and bear arms will continue to linger in court in the upcoming year. **FN**

LATEST ATTEMPT TO STOP ILLINOIS AWB FALLS SHORT

By Mark Chesnut

A last-ditch attempt to stave off Illinois' sweeping ban on so-called "assault weapons" and related gun parts was recently shot down in court, leaving state firearms owners under the gun as of Jan. 1.

Back in May 2023, U.S. District Judge Stephen P. McGlynn of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Illinois issued a temporary injunction on the Protect Illinois Communities Act (PICA), stating it almost certainly violates the Second Amendment.

"As Americans, we have every reason to celebrate our rights and freedoms, especially on Independence Day," Judge McGlynn wrote in the ruling. "Can the senseless crimes of a relative few be so despicable to justify the infringement of the constitutional rights of law-abiding individuals in hopes that such crimes will then abate or, at least, not be as horrific?

"More specifically, can PICA be harmonized with the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution and with *Bruen*? That is the issue before this Court. The simple answer at this stage in the proceedings is 'likely no.'"

Since that time, Judge McGlynn's injunction was overruled by a three-

judge panel of the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Later, the U.S. Supreme Court denied a request to step in and stop the law from taking effect.

Most recently, plaintiffs went back to Judge McGlynn trying to get an emergency injunction prior to the law taking effect. However, this time the judge chose to see things differently, not only ruling that the plaintiffs didn't have standing but that the law is not unconstitutionally vague, as plaintiffs had argued.

"The government is correct that, absent a clear indication that the advocacy organizations have standing to sue on behalf of their members, the FFL plaintiffs cannot bring suit on behalf of hypothetical, unnamed Illinois citizens who allegedly do not have adequate notice of the registration requirements," the Dec. 22 ruling stated.

Consequently, the court denied the request for the preliminary injunction and also granted the state's motion to dismiss the "vagueness" argument.

"... the Emergency Rules implementing the PICA registration requirement are not unconstitutionally vague," the ruling further stated.



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"Rather, they are clear in what they prohibit, serious issues with the Second Amendment aside. Additionally, concerns about individual parts are clearly 'edge questions' in a statute focused on defined 'assault weapons' and do not interfere with the statute's core meaning."

Judge McGlynn concluded: "The deadline for registration is steeply upon us. Enjoining only the registration requirement for attachments and parts but not firearms would likely lead to more confusion than clarity. It may also create further delays in this litigation when the constitutional rights of the citizens demand an expeditious resolution on the merits."

In the end, Illinois gun owners are stuck with the horrific law until some future court hopefully chooses to overturn it and call it exactly what it is — grossly unconstitutional. **FN** →



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NONCOMPLIANCE IN THE LAND OF LINCOLN A CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATE SETS A GOOD EXAMPLE

By Mark Chesnut

It will likely come as little surprise to most *Firearms News* readers that Gov. J.B. Pritzker's registration scheme for common semi-automatic rifles has met with massive noncompliance. After all, history has shown that registration is almost always a precursor to confiscation — a fact well understood by most gun owners.

As background, after many court fights to try to halt the new law, the Protect Our Communities Act (PICA) went into effect on Jan. 1. That was the last date for those who chose to register their semi-autos instead of turning them in.

However, according to the *Illinois Review*, as of Dec. 31 only 52,000 gun owners had registered one of more of their firearms on the PICA list. Considering there are more than 2.4 million Firearm Owner Identification card holders, that number is a dismally low 2.2 percent.

Richard Pearson, executive director of the Illinois State Rifle Association, said much of the problem is the law being intentionally confusing.

"When Gov. Pritzker signed his unconstitutional ban on commonly owned firearms last January he wanted to create mass confusion and bully law-abiding gun owners like you and me into registering our firearms by January 1 or potentially face felony charges and even imprisonment," Pearson said in a video discussing the noncompliance issue. "This mass confusion is reflected in the registration numbers."

One outspoken opponent of the law is former state Senator and House member Darren Bailey, a Republican who is currently running for Congress in Illinois' 12th Congressional district. Bailey has said all along he won't comply with the registration requirement, and now he's sticking to his guns — literally.

"I absolutely will not," Bailey said in an exclusive interview with *Firearms News*. "I truly believe that most of the people who have registered are just scared and are doing it out of fear."

Unfortunately, according to Bailey, many Republicans in the state legislature aren't speaking out strongly against the law and its implementation for the same reason — fear. Many are bogged down in politics and cronyism, which makes staying silent more expedient than speaking out.



"Career politicians are always more concerned about re-election than really doing the right thing," Bailey said. "Also, what happens — what I witnessed in Springfield the four years I was there — was that after you're there for a time, say 10 years, you become friends with all of the lobbyists and all of the bureaucrats that are there and they'll pull a favor or two. Then all of a sudden, the day comes when they ask for a favor. And for a conservative Republican, when you start swapping favors you're swapping ethical and moral thoughts as well."

Noncompliance by gun owners isn't Pritzker's only problem with the new law. As we reported in January of last year, sheriffs from 85 of the state's 102 counties oppose the new law and have said they will not enforce it. Prosecutors in many counties have also vowed to not prosecute violators of the law.

To Bailey, the entire controversy over the new law is a Second Amendment issue that he believes more people need to understand more deeply.

"Our founding fathers were wise to describe 'inalienable' rights in the Constitution," he said. "I think we Americans have forgotten what inalienable rights are — rights given to us by God as free people. And an inalienable right is something that the government should be protecting."

"I run across a lot of people who don't think like we do. They say, 'Well, how dare you! You're violating a law. So, you're a criminal.' Well, no, there are times when upholding the Constitution doesn't mean to uphold a tyrant that comes in and is able to force laws like this. We have the right and ability to stand up against that. At the end of the day, to what extent are we going to go to stand for our freedoms if we're just going to cower and be obedient to every rule and law pushed by a tyrant like J.B. Pritzker?"

In the end, Bailey is hopeful the law will eventually have its day before the highest court of the land.

"I truly believe that the US Supreme Court will step in when one of these lawsuits makes it there," Bailey concluded. "I have faith in our court system that the Constitution will be upheld and that this law will be found unconstitutional. I think that will even result in ending the FOID card here in Illinois. But I don't know how long that's going to take. Until then, we've got to stand on our rights." **FN** →

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THE PRITZKER-HYATT CONNECTION: IL GOVERNOR WANTS YOUR GUNS AND YOUR MONEY

Time for Gun Owners to Boycott Hyatt Hotels Especially During SHOT Show

By Mark Chesnut

Gun owners who don't want their hard-earned dollars going to anti-gun zealots dead set on disarming them should reconsider ever doing business with Hyatt.

One good reason is that an heir to the Hyatt fortune, Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker, is plenty willing to spend his time and a very substantial amount of money for anti-gun and other left-leaning causes. Pritzker, who has a net worth of \$3.5 billion according to *Fortune* magazine, signed a sweeping ban on many common semi-auto firearms and standard-capacity magazines last year, and has also donated more than \$2 million in efforts to have liberal judges elected and another \$2 million-plus in support of Ohio's pro-abortion legislation.

When Pritzker signed Illinois' so-called "assault weapons" ban in January 2023, he did so with much fanfare.

"For the past four years, my administration and my colleagues in the State Capitol have been battling the powerful forces of the NRA to enshrine the strongest and most effective gun violence legislation that we possibly can," Pritzker crowed at the signing. "I couldn't be prouder to say that we got it done. And we will keep fighting — bill by bill, vote by vote, and protest by protest — to ensure that future generations only hear about massacres like Highland Park, Sandy Hook, and Uvalde in their textbooks."

Under the law, state gun owners had the opportunity to keep their firearms if they registered them with the government within a certain amount of time. Of course, that's a tenuous situation since registration always leads to confiscation.

Passage of the law brought indignation from some Republican legislators who said they didn't intend to comply



Shutterstock By Charles E. Miller and Kit Leong

with the ban, which they considered to be unconstitutional. Those statements brought a swift rebuke from Gov. Pritzker, who, in a haughty, threatening manner, assured them that the State Police would squelch any pushback.

"You don't get to choose which laws you comply with in the state of Illinois," he said. "There are, of course, people who are trying to politically grandstand who want to make a name for themselves by claiming that they will not comply. But the reality is that the State Police is responsible for enforcement, as are all law enforcement all across this state. And they will, in fact, do their job or they won't be in there."

Of course, unlike most Illinois residents, Gov. Pritzker doesn't need to own a firearm to protect himself and his family. The state's Executive Protection Unit (EPU) provides 24-hour-a-day security for the governor and his immediate family, as well as for the executive mansion.

Gun owners should also be aware that Hyatt owns many hotels and other recreational properties across the country and around the world that are not under the Hyatt name. In the U.S., they include more than a two dozen in California and more than a dozen in both Colorado and New York. A listing of all Hyatt vacation properties can be found here. [https://](https://www.hyatt.com/explore-hotels)

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For those preparing to head to the SHOT Show in Las Vegas next month, note that Pritzker is no friend of the firearms industry. This year he also signed the so-called Firearm Industry Responsibility Act into law, making it easier to sue manufacturers for illegal use of their safe, legally produced and sold products.

At the time of the signing, Pritzker gloated: "Today, I proudly signed the Firearm Industry Responsibility Act into law — finally holding gun manufacturers accountable for endangering the public safety and health of our people. We hold opioid manufacturers accountable. Vaping companies accountable. Predatory lenders accountable. Gun manufacturers shouldn't get to hide from the law — and now, they won't be able to. Here's to an Illinois where everyone feels safe in every corner of our great state."

SHOT Show participants should note that there are plenty of lodging options that won't help line Pritzker's already well-lined pockets. In Vegas, Hyatt owns Hyatt Place Las Vegas, Hyatt Place Las Vegas at Silverton Village and Rio Hotel & Casino. Incidentally, none of those hotels are on the list of official hotels provided to participants by the National Shooting Sports Foundation, which runs the show. **FN**

LEGISLATION FILED TO BLOCK NEW ATF FINAL RULE REDEFINING GUN SELLERS

By Mark Chesnut

A U.S. Congressman has introduced new legislation designed to stop the implementation of the ATF's latest scheme that redefines who is "engaged in the business" of selling firearms.

On Dec. 14, U.S. Rep. Andrew Clyde, R-Georgia, filed the Stopping Unconstitutional Background Checks Act, which would block funding for the final rule, proposed back at the end of August.

The proposal states: "No Federal funds may be used to finalize, implement, or enforce the rule proposed by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, entitled 'Definition of "Engaged in the Business" as a Dealer in Firearms,' in the notice of proposed rulemaking 2022R-17, signed by the Attorney General on August 30, 2023, or any substantially similar rule."

"This proposed rule marks the Biden Administration's latest attempt to infringe on Americans' Second Amendment rights, institute universal background checks, and advance the Left's radical gun control agenda," Clyde said in a press release announcing the legislation. "Private citizens should not be forced to jump through unelected anti-gun bureaucrats' unconstitutional hurdles in order to engage in lawful firearms transactions. The ATF's concerning pattern of criminalizing the American people for exercising their unalienable right to keep and bear arms must be met with swift congressional action."

"My legislation provides a simple solution to block the implementation of and funding for this unlawful, convoluted and burdensome rule —

protecting Americans' Second Amendment liberties from the Biden Administration's nefarious overreach."

After the filing, a wide range of pro-gun organizations voiced support for the measure, including the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF), which is the firearm industry trade association.

"The Stopping Unconstitutional Background Checks Act is important because it will stop the ATF from yet again exceeding the authority granted to it by Congress to unconstitutionally legislate, which only Congress has the authority to do," Lawrence Keane, NSSF senior vice president and general counsel, said in a released statement. "NSSF thanks Congressman Clyde for his leadership to assert Congress' sole authority to legislate and to rein in ATF's overreach." **FN**



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Popular CoQ10 Pills Leave Millions Suffering

Could this newly-discovered brain fuel solve America's worsening memory crisis?

PALM BEACH, FLORIDA — Millions of Americans take the supplement known as CoQ10. It's the coenzyme that supercharges the "energy factories" in your cells known as *mitochondria*. But there's a serious flaw that's leaving millions unsatisfied.

As you age, your mitochondria break down and fail to produce energy. In a revealing study, a team of researchers showed that 95 percent of the mitochondria in a 90-year-old man were damaged, compared to almost no damage in the mitochondria of a 5-year-old.

Taking CoQ10 alone is not enough to solve this problem. Because as powerful as CoQ10 is, there's one critical thing it fails to do: it can't create new mitochondria to replace the ones you lost.

And that's bad news for Americans all over the country. The loss of cellular energy is a problem for the memory concerns people face as they get older.

"We had no way of replacing lost mitochondria until a recent discovery changed everything," says Dr. Al Sears, founder and medical director of the Sears Institute for Anti-Aging Medicine in Palm Beach, Florida. "Researchers discovered the only nutrient known to modern science that has the power to trigger the growth of new mitochondria."

Why Taking CoQ10 is Not Enough

Dr. Sears explains, "This new discovery is so powerful, it can multiply your mitochondria by 55 percent in just a few weeks. That's the equivalent of restoring decades of lost brain power."

This exciting nutrient — called PQQ (*pyrroloquinoline quinone*) — is the driving force behind a revolution in aging. When paired with CoQ10, this dynamic duo has the power to reverse the age-related memory losses you may have thought were beyond your control.

Dr. Sears pioneered a new formula — called **Ultra Accel II** — that combines both CoQ10 and PQQ to support maximum cellular energy and the normal growth of new mitochondria. **Ultra Accel II** is the first of its kind to address both problems and is already creating huge demand.

Over 47 million doses have been shipped to men and women across the country and sales continue to climb for this much sought-after brain fuel. In fact, demand has been so overwhelming that inventories repeatedly sell out. But a closer look at **Ultra Accel II** reveals

there are good reasons why sales are booming.

Science Confirms the Many Benefits of PQQ

The medical journal *Biochemical Pharmacology* reports that PQQ is up to 5,000 times more efficient in sustaining energy production than common antioxidants. With the ability to keep every cell in your body operating at full strength, **Ultra Accel II** delivers more than just added brain power and a faster memory.

People feel more energetic, more alert, and don't need naps in the afternoon. The boost in cellular energy generates more power to your heart, lungs, muscles, and more.

"With the PQQ in Ultra Accel, I have energy I never thought possible at my age," says Colleen R., one of Dr. Sears's patients. "I'm in my 70s but feel 40 again. I think clearly, move with real energy and sleep like a baby."

The response has been overwhelmingly positive, and Dr. Sears receives countless emails from his patients and readers. "My patients tell me they feel better than they have in years. This is ideal for people who are feeling old and run down, or for those who feel more forgetful. It surprises many that you can add healthy and productive years to your life simply by taking **Ultra Accel II** every day."

You may have seen Dr. Sears on television or read one of his 12 best-selling books. Or you may have seen him speak at the 2016 WPBF 25 Health and Wellness Festival in South Florida, featuring Dr. Oz and special guest Suzanne Somers. Thousands of people attended Dr. Sears's lecture on anti-aging breakthroughs and waited in line for hours during his book signing at the event.

Will Ultra Accel II Multiply Your Energy?

Ultra Accel II is turning everything we thought we knew about youthful energy on its head. Especially for people over age 50. In less than 30 seconds every morning, you can harness the power of this breakthrough discovery to restore peak energy and your "spark for life."

So, if you've noticed less energy as you've gotten older, and you want an easy way to reclaim your youthful edge, this new opportunity will feel like blessed relief.

The secret is the "energy multiplying" molecule that activates a dormant gene in your body that declines with age, which then instructs your cells to pump out fresh energy from the inside-out. This growth of new "energy



MEMORY-BUILDING SENSATION: Top doctors are now recommending new **Ultra Accel II** because it restores decades of lost brain power without a doctor's visit.

factories" in your cells is called mitochondrial biogenesis.

Instead of falling victim to that afternoon slump, you enjoy sharp-as-a-tack focus, memory, and concentration from sunup to sundown. And you get more done in a day than most do in a week. Regardless of how exhausting the world is now.

Dr. Sears reports, "The most rewarding aspect of practicing medicine is watching my patients get the joy back in their lives. **Ultra Accel II** sends a wake-up call to every cell in their bodies... And they actually feel young again."

And his patients agree. "I noticed a difference within a few days," says Jerry from Ft. Pierce, Florida. "My endurance has almost doubled, and I feel it mentally, too. There's a clarity and sense of well-being in my life that I've never experienced before."

How To Get Ultra Accel II

This is the official nationwide release of **Ultra Accel II** in the United States. And so, the company is offering a special discount supply to anyone who calls during the official launch.

An Order Hotline has been set up for local readers to call. This gives everyone an equal chance to try **Ultra Accel II**. And your order is backed up by a no-hassle, 90-day money back guarantee. No questions asked.

Starting at 7:00 AM today, the discount offer will be available for a limited time only. All you have to do is call TOLL FREE **1-800-435-1567** right now and use promo code **UAFIRE324** to secure your own supply.

Important: Due to **Ultra Accel II** recent media exposure, phone lines are often busy. If you call and do not immediately get through, please be patient and call back.

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